



Reduce stress
Commuters have bus options during 35W construction
Page 3



Summer activities abound
From Farmers' Markets to community festivals and park and library programs, find out what's happening in this issue of the SCENE



Farm Family of the Year
Steinhagens chosen for annual U of M Extension honor
Page 20

Feeling a space crunch County plans new, updated facilities

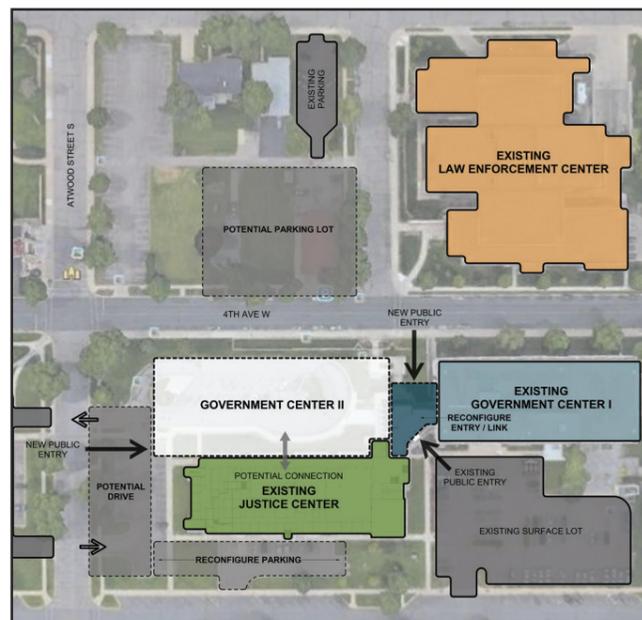
Growth requires change. With already cramped buildings and another 50,000 residents expected in Scott County by 2040, a recent space study indicated a need to expand County facilities. After approval from the County Board to contract with Wold Architects & Engineers for design services, plans are underway to move several major projects forward, with construction beginning in 2019.

"Our goal is to complete these projects with minimal impact on County property taxpayers," said Scott County Deputy Administrator Lezlie Vermillion, the project sponsor. "We have several bonds retiring so we believe this is a good time to move forward with the projects."

The 2016-17 space study, which projected needs through 2040, identified several large space drivers, including the need for new courtrooms, a mental health center, and the separation of the public/clients and employee work areas from a security standpoint.

The recommendation was to construct an approximately 110,000 square foot building within the current County Campus in Shakopee. The project also includes renovation of the Justice Center to include buildout of the needed courtrooms and a jury assembly room. The Government Center will include security and operational renovations for customer service and business needs. The Government Center project the removal of a house and conference center and parking upgrades. There will also be construction of an approximately 15,000 square foot warm storage facility at the Public Works Facility in Spring Lake Township.

The construction project will be competitively bid, with construction of the parking lot and the warm storage for Public Works anticipated to start in summer of 2019. The new building would be constructed in 2021, followed by renovations to the existing buildings in 2022.



A new building on the County campus in Shakopee will be built, remodeling will take place in the adjoining Justice Center and Government Center, and the County's Conference Center -- a former funeral home -- and an adjoining house owned by the County will be removed to make room for a parking lot.

The cost of the project is estimated at \$63.4 million, of which \$40 million is estimated for the new building. Renovations in the Justice Center are expected to be \$6.2 million, those in the current Government Center (including parking) are estimated at \$13.5 million, and the warm storage facility has a price tag of \$3.6 million.

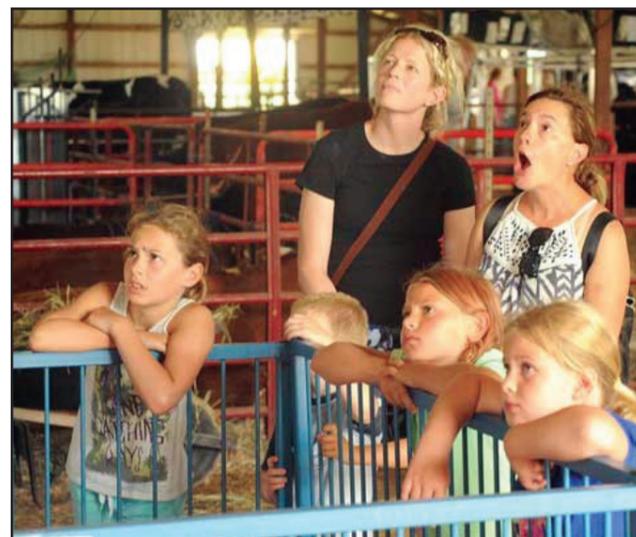
Election cycle begins, register to vote now

The campaign season never seems to end, but the 2018 election cycle is just gearing up as the filing period concludes June 5.

The next step in the election process will be the Aug. 14 Primary Election, where candidates will be selected for the General Election ballot on Nov. 6.

If you are already registered to vote at your current address, you do not have to register again. While you can register the day of the election at your precinct (the most common way to do this is with an ID that has your new address or an ID and a utility bill showing your new address), it is much easier (and faster!) when you **complete your registration online at least 20 days before the election.** Visit <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn/VoterRegistration/VoterRegistrationMain.aspx> to register or to check on your registration status.

Registered voters will be able to check in the day of the election using the new **electronic poll pads** recently purchased by Scott County. An election judge will use it **ELECTION CYCLE** to page 14



A group visiting the Miracle of Birth Center at last year's Scott County Fair missed the live birth of a calf, but they were able to watch the video and see the newborn animals in the cattle barn.

Schedule set for Scott County Fair, July 25-29

This year's Scott County Fair theme, "Five Days You Won't Forget," hints at just how fun the 2018 Fair will be!

If you come for the food, there will be more food vendors than last year offering unique and delicious treats.

If you like the carnival rides, you won't find a better mix: There's Amee, the classic carousel; Eli, a vintage Ferris wheel; plus Gold Star, the premiere carnival company, returning this year with even more rides.

Maybe you prefer the grandstand shows. There will be truck and tractor pulls on Wednesday and Thursday, Motokazie moto-cross racing on Sunday, and the demo derby on Saturday. A special showing of Minn-e-rods has been added during Friday night's monster truck show, **SCOTT COUNTY FAIR** to page 2



New poll pads will be used when voters check in for the Aug. 14 Primary Election. The new equipment is expected to speed up the voting process.

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SHAKOPEE, MN
55379
PERMIT No. 155

**ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER**

**Scott County Government Center
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, MN 55379-1220**

Top of the SCENE

By Gary Shelton

Scott County Administrator



We need to cure stigma of mental illness, make services available

It's often said that we are simply the sum of our life experiences. That our experiences, whether they be positive or negative, shape us and make us the person that we are. While there is certainly an element of truth to this saying, experiences alone account for only a part of who we are. Our brain provides us with the ability to be exponential learners and provides the capacity to draw conclusions by using different (sometimes unrelated) information, observations, and experiences. However, how do we develop, manage, and survive when illness disrupts our ability to learn, reason, draw conclusions, understand, or react to the world around us?

As a young child, I was exceedingly fortunate. I lived in a very upscale home, had two loving parents, and wanted for virtually nothing. My family's home was the gathering spot for my friends simply because we had it all, and my biggest worry was that my mom might figure out what types of shenanigans my buddies and I were up to. However, my life experiences changed rapidly, and not for the better, shortly after I turned eleven.

My mother, the strongest influence in my life, was diagnosed with cancer and my world began to unravel. I didn't really understand what cancer was, how it worked, or what was going to happen; however, I could tangibly feel that nothing was ever going to be the same. As she had done my entire life, it was my mother who began to prepare me for what was about to happen. On a warm spring day, she did her best to help me understand that she was going to die. Given that cancer treatments were very limited and somewhat barbaric in the late '60s, she made no attempt to fool me into thinking she would survive. Her sole focus was to prepare me for her death and what she was certain would follow. She explained that as strong as I thought my father was, he would not long survive her death; I would need to find my way without either of them. For the next few years, our home seemed to be empty of happiness. Just after I turned fourteen, my mother passed, my father sank into a deep depression, and the last parts of my life were torn away as he uprooted my brother and me from our friends, community, and the only home we had ever known to move us across the country to relatives that were all but strangers.

If her illness had not been enough, I was now living the nightmare my mother had tried so hard to prepare me for. I had gone from affluence to poverty, having friends to knowing no one, two fun and loving parents to a father so deep in depression that he was essentially gone even though he was physically there. I also began to feel myself slipping away as I could find no joy even in those things that used to be fun; the fear and uneasiness of what bad thing was going to happen next became all-consuming. I truly began to think that the only way for things to be better would be if I died as well. While I thought I was suffering in solitude, my Aunt Helen could see that I was failing, and she stepped in. While I was trying to go it alone, she convinced me that there was no shame in reaching out for help and arranged for me to see a psychologist.

With the proper help, in a relatively short period of time I was managing my thoughts and starting to solve problems. And while my life was still difficult and very different from before, hope returned, and joy soon followed. Unfortunately, my father never received help for his depression. And only a couple of years later, on the day after his father's funeral, having lost something dear for the last time, he killed himself.

While I can now write about my father's depression and my feelings of depression and anxiety, at the time I did not know what they were. I don't know why my father never got help, but in retrospect I believe that stigma, lack of understanding, and limited resources were certainly contributing factors. When my mother was ill with cancer, family and friends rallied and tried to support her and our family. However, when my father struggled with mental illness, he was virtually abandoned by everyone... myself included. Shamed for not being strong enough and shunned for his depression, he tried to kill his pain the only way he knew how.

May was mental health month, and I was very encouraged when at the last Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (SCALE) meeting of leaders throughout our community focused on what is being done to provide resources and access to those suffering with mental illness throughout our communities. While the focus of the meeting was on school-linked mental health services, the discussion touched on other important services – many only recently available or still under development. And I certainly hope that this focus and greater understanding will continue.

Millions of Americans -- and thousands of Scott County residents -- face the reality of living with a mental illness, some chronic and pervasive and some more episodic. And just like cancer or any other disease, mental illness impacts both the patient and the family. This year the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is promoting the theme "Cure Stigma." Why is this important? Because as the NAMI website so accurately states, "Stigma is toxic to ... mental health because it creates an environment of shame, fear, and silence that prevents many people from seeking help and treatment." I know this to be true. I lived it.

We can change the perception of mental illness, make the appropriate services available and accessible, and in the process transform lives – we only need to act.



To learn more about the SmartLink travel solutions please contact: SmartLink Dial-a-Ride at (952) 496-8341, Extension 1 (*please allow 2-3 days advance notice to schedule your ride); visit SmartLink Volunteer Drivers at www.scottcountymn.gov and click "Get Involved," or call Cara at (952) 496-8169; or reach the SmartLink Travel Trainer at (952) 469-8709 and ask for Amy.

Selfie Scavenger Hunt

At The Scott County Fair ~ The Five Best Days of Summer
July 25th-29th, 2018



#SCfairselfie

Snap a photo of at least FOUR of these items located at the Scott County Fair and post them to #SCfairselfie on your social media account or show us your selfies in person! Everybody who completes the challenge wins a prize! Claim your prize at the Scott County booth in Commercial Building #11.



www.scottcountymn.gov

County Fair

From page 1

which will provide a night of non-stop action. There is a "tuff trucks" category for individuals to enter their own trucks and compete.

Throughout all five days of the Fair there are special free shows and exhibits. The Lumberjacks are back, The Old West Society will bring you back in time, there is the Mobile Military Museum, a classic car show, magicians, a juggling fire show, and more music than you can shake a corn-dog stick at. Also returning is the very popular Miracle of Birth Center and one of the biggest draft horse shows in the country. Check out the schedule of events at <http://www.scottcountyfair.org/>.

So whatever reason you come to the Fair, you will want to invite your family and friends to spend time with you at there (July 25-29).

Kids' Day: Thursday, July 26, free parking until 1 p.m. for those with kids in vehicle. Kids' Day events include Car Seat Clinic, Truck Event, Scott County's new Read Mobile, Dem-Con Recycle Trailer, Sheltered Realty Student Band, Metropolitan Dance, River Valley All Stars, Jordan Cheerleaders, magic and fire shows, Lumberjack Shows and Kid's Camp.

Senior and Veterans' Day: Friday, July 27, parking is free until 4 p.m. for seniors and veterans. The day includes We Three Kings, One Man Band, senior program, free refreshments for seniors



Fairgoers enjoy a wide selection of food and beverages. (Photo courtesy of Wisich Photography)



The Monster Truck and Minn-e-rod Show will be held Friday in the Grandstand.

provided by Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, two polka bands, and bingo.

Horse shows:
Draft Horse Shows: Friday and Saturday at 4 p.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.
Ranch Rodeo: 6 p.m. on Friday
Pleasure: Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday starting at 8 a.m.

Grandstand:
Wednesday: NTPA Truck and Tractor Pull
Thursday: Truck and Tractor Pull
Friday: Monster Truck and Minn-e-rod Shows
Saturday: Demo Derby
Sunday: Motokazie (10 a.m.)

Main Stage Bands:
Wednesday: Dirt Road, 7-11 p.m.
Thursday: Up South, 4-8 p.m.; Rhino, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
Friday: Charlie Sticha Band, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Deep Fried Tweeters, 4-8:30 p.m.; 32 Below, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
Saturday: Band of Brothers, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Stampede, 4-8 p.m.; Slama Bama, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
Sunday: Triggerfish, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Everett Smithson, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Get your exhibits ready for the Fair and register by July 16: <http://www.scottcountyfair.org/forms/creative-arts-education-horticulture-registration/>.

Commissioners' Corner

County Board Meetings through August 2018

June 5	–	County Board meeting
June 12	–	no meeting
June 19	–	County Board meeting
June 26	--	no meeting
July 3	–	no meeting
July 10	–	County Board meeting
July 17	–	County Board meeting
July 24	–	no meeting
July 31	–	County Board workshop
August 7	–	County Board meeting
August 14	–	no meeting
August 21	–	County Board meeting
August 28	–	no meeting

The Scott County Board meets at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays (except if indicated otherwise above) at the Government Center in Shakopee. Visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov to view streaming video of Board meetings, Board agendas, and minutes of previous meetings. The Board proceedings may also be rebroadcast on your local government access cable channels; refer to your weekly newspapers for broadcast dates and times. For further information about County Board meetings, contact the County Administration office at (952) 496-8100.

Citizen Committee Vacancies

The Scott County Board of Commissioners is looking for interested citizens to serve on the following advisory committees. Members of advisory committees are provided with a per diem and mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings. If you have any questions or are interested in serving on one of these committees, contact Deb Brazil at (952) 496-8601 or via e-mail at dbrazil@co.scott.mn.us. For more information regarding a specific committee, visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov; click on "Your County Government," then "Boards, Commissions, and Committees." *Please note that some of the vacancies have incumbents who are eligible to be reappointed for another term.*

Community Corrections Advisory Board (1 vacancy). There is currently a vacancy on this Board in Commissioner District 4. This Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Scott County Board of Commissioners as they relate to community corrections. The Board is comprised of law enforcement staff, corrections staff, judges, attorneys, social services personnel, educators, and citizens. There are five citizen members, one from each Commissioner District. Advisory Board members are appointed to serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. Persons of color and from various ethnic groups are particularly encouraged to apply. This Board meets every other month on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

Extension Committee (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one vacancy in Commissioner District 4. In partnership with the University of Minnesota, the Extension Committee assists in formulating programs, recommending budgets, and selecting and evaluating the Extension staff. The University of Minnesota Extension discovers science-based solutions, delivers practical education, and engages Minnesotans to build a better future. Together, we create a better world for today and tomorrow by keeping our food safe and affordable; preparing today's youth to thrive in a complex world; ensuring Minnesota communities are strong; improving our environment; and helping families make better decisions. The Extension Committee meets four times per year (Wednesday evenings, 5:15 p.m.). For more information on Extension, go to www.extension.umn.edu or contact Tammy McCulloch, Extension Regional Director, at tammym@umn.edu or (612) 735-6161.

Human Services Resource Council (3 vacancies). The Resource Council consists of three representatives from each Commissioner District. Currently, there is one vacancy in Commissioner District 1 and two vacancies in Commissioner District 3. Members serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. The Resource Council participates in development of the Strategic Plan for Health and Human Services; makes recommendations concerning the annual budget of Health and Human Services; makes recommendations related to human services programs, needs, priorities, goals, and objectives to the County Board; and receives, reviews, and comments on special interest group and community at-large input regarding Human Services plans, programs, services, and performance. Professional providers and consumers of Human Services programs are particularly encouraged to apply. The committee meets quarterly, on the third Monday at 6 p.m.

Commissioner Districts:

- **District 1:** The Cities of Belle Plaine, Jordan (precincts 1 and 2), New Prague (precinct 2), and Shakopee (precinct 5); and Belle Plaine, Blakeley, Helena, Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, and Sand Creek Townships.
- **District 2:** The Cities of Elko New Market and Prior Lake (precincts 2 and 3); and Cedar Lake, Credit River, New Market, and Spring Lake Townships.
- **District 3:** The City of Shakopee, precincts 1-4, 6-8, 12A, and 12B.
- **District 4:** The Cities of Prior Lake (precincts 1, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, and 7) and Shakopee (precincts 9, 10, 11 and 13).
- **District 5:** The City of Savage.



Editorial Policy

The purpose of this publication is to provide the public with information about Scott County Government and the opportunities it offers its citizens. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Lisa Kohner, Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 or lkohner@co.scott.mn.us or Claire Robling, Communications and Legislative Coordinator, at (952) 496-8597 or crobbling@co.scott.mn.us.



With road construction occurring throughout the Metro area this summer and fall, MVTA is encouraging commuters to use transit options that can provide passengers with less stress and more productive time while riding the bus. The buses are equipped with free Wi-Fi.

MVTA urges commuters to prepare for I-35W construction by checking out bus options

Major construction activity is expected to begin in June on I-35W and affect all downtown commuters from the south metro area. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is rebuilding the freeway and bridges, fixing and adding ramps, building a transit station, and making improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists. The construction start date of this phase of construction is still pending.

In summer 2018, access to and from downtown from I-35W will be closed for four months and lanes will be reduced.

Consider commuting options

MnDOT is urging all users of the corridor to consider altering work schedules and explore alternate modes of travel, including:

- Working from home one day a week.
- Starting and ending work earlier or later than usual.
- Carpooling.
- Using public transit.

Minnesota Valley Transit Authority offers 14 express routes to downtown Minneapolis on weekdays, 12 of which use the 35W corridor.

"We agree with state officials that behavior changes are needed by commuters to lessen the impacts of this major construction project," said MVTA Executive Director Luther Wynder. "This would be a good time for south metro residents to try transit to help reduce the number of vehicles using the corridor. Transit riders also can use their time productively on the bus as opposed to fighting the congestion."

Scheduled bus departure times will remain the same, but riders should expect longer trip times to Minneapolis and plan accordingly.

Consider alternate transit routes

MVTA also is encouraging customers to consider alternate transit connections during construction – including the Blue Line Train that runs from Mall of America to downtown Minneapolis. MVTA has several routes that connect with the Blue Line at Mall of America, including:

- **Burnsville:** Route 495, Route 444
- **Savage:** Route 444
- **Shakopee:** Route 495

The Blue Line runs about every 10 minutes during peak times and provides connections to downtown Minneapolis. Transfers allow passengers to transfer to the light rail without additional charge.

Express bus service

MVTA express routes will operate based on their regularly scheduled departure times. Transit buses will have advantages, including bus-only lanes, however, travel times will increase and MVTA urges riders to plan accordingly.

Because of the construction project and detour routing, service will not be provided to the Lake Street stop. Regular users of the Lake Street stop are encouraged to explore transit alternatives using MVTA's or Metro Transit's Trip Planners.

The following express routes offer commuting options to/from Minneapolis. Please contact MVTA Customer Service at 952-882-7500 or visit mvta.com for trip planning assistance and schedule information.

Prior Lake: 490 (County Road 21 and Main/Downtown Minneapolis)

Savage: 464 (Savage Park & Ride/Downtown Minneapolis)

Alternative option: Route 490 in Shakopee is an alternative for riders to consider during construction. Route 490 avoids the 35W corridor.

Shakopee: 490 (Eagle Creek Park & Ride/ Southbridge Crossings/Downtown Minneapolis). Route 490 avoids the 35W corridor.

493 (Marschall Road Transit Station/Downtown Minneapolis). Route 493 avoids the 35W corridor.

Burnsville: 460 (Burnsville Transit Station/Downtown Minneapolis) 464 (County Road 42/ Heart of the City Park & Ride/ Downtown Minneapolis) 465U (Burnsville Transit Station/ Minneapolis/ U of M)

Other routing alternatives include MVTA express service to downtown St. Paul, connecting to express route 94 to downtown Minneapolis.

For updates on 35W construction activity, go to <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/35w94/>. For more information and to use the MVTA Trip Planner and sign up for route alerts, go to www.mvta.com or contact MVTA Customer Service at 952-882-7500 or email mvta@mvta.com.

Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) is the public transportation agency for seven cities in the south metro: Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, and Rosemount in Dakota County, Savage, Prior Lake and Shakopee in Scott County.

Environmental SCENE

By Paul Nelson
Natural Resource and
Environmental Services Manager



Green is my favorite color

I have been making maple syrup every spring for over 25 years. It's therapeutic to get outside as things wake up after a long winter. This year, however, it was a frustratingly long wait for the sap to start running and, as I write this column, things have still not greened up. Hopefully, by the time this column is published leaves will have sprouted. With this in mind, I thought that this would be a good opportunity to remind everyone that healthy vegetation has benefits beyond being therapeutic following a long winter. A few of the obvious benefits include the shade provided by trees on a hot summer day, food produced by crops, screening out an annoying neighbor, and habitat for bees and wildlife. Less obvious are the benefits provided to air, water, and soil.

Leaves on vegetation protect the ground surface from the impact of raindrops, while roots help hold soil together. Together, this helps prevent erosion... protecting the soil and minimizing sediment pollution. Vegetation adds organic matter to soil, which in turn helps to maintain a healthy soil with good structure and "porosity." Healthy soils soak up rainfall, minimize the amount of surface runoff, and recharge our underground aquifers.

It is well known that most healthy forests produce little to no surface runoff. This is due to the healthy underlying soils, but also due to the fact that leaves intercept about 10 to 20 percent of rainfall keeping it from ever hitting the ground. Healthy prairies and grasslands also have a lot of leaf surface area that gets wet during rains, providing a similar benefit to that of forests. Add to this that plants suck water (i.e., transpire) from the ground, essentially drying it and making room to store more of the next rain.

Vegetation also helps with water quality. As described above, vegetation minimizes erosion, and growing plants take up nutrients and store them in their tissue. Some of these nutrients are re-released when leaves fall or plants die and decompose.

Plants, particularly in urban forests, have been shown to improve air quality. It is documented that they help to reduce particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. Add to this the fact that vegetation, particularly trees, store carbon, and release oxygen – something we all need.

Bottom line? Plants are our friends in multiple ways. Thus, I strongly encourage everyone to support healthy and diverse plant growth on their property. You don't need to have a green thumb; there are plenty of places to get advice on the web, through Master Gardeners, local greenhouses, landscaping professionals, University of Minnesota Extension, and the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District.

Make sure you get plants that are suitable to our climate, and when in doubt, consider native plants that have evolved to the local conditions. My wife has converted much of our one-acre yard into native plants which she likes because of the birds and butterflies they attract, and I like because there is less mowing. Also consider site conditions, and get the right plants for the condition - wet or dry, sun or shade. Lastly, plant or seed at the right time. Spring, early summer, and fall are generally the best times.



The MN CREP program provides compensation to landowners who choose to retire their marginal land to develop habitat and improve water quality.

Landowners may sign up for MN conservation program

There is a great opportunity right now for landowners to sign up for the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP) with the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District in Jordan. "MN CREP is a voluntary, targeted program that works. We work closely with area landowners to help them understand MN CREP and the benefits. The reason for signing up will differ from individual to individual, so whether it is habitat, economical, or about creating a legacy for future generations, we are here to help landowners through the process," said Alyssa Alness, Scott SWCD Ecological Specialist.

MN CREP is an offshoot of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the

country's largest private-land conservation program. It is a federal, state, and local partnership in which landowners can choose to retire their marginal land using the nationally-recognized ReInvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve program. The establishment of conservation practices both improves water quality and provides dollars to landowners.

To learn more about the program or to sign up, call the Scott SWCD at (952) 492-5425 and they will provide details about the program and work with you to put together a proposal that will include payment rates and a map of your area. For general information on MN CREP, visit www.bwsr.state.mn.us/CREP.

Church's Creation Care Team promotes recycling

Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, located in Prior Lake, accommodates a 4,000 member congregation, a preschool, and several event spaces. The church demonstrates a commitment to environmental sustainability through its Creation Care Team, which works to educate the congregation about environmental issues. So when the church heard about Waste Wise and the Scott County Business Recycling Grant Program, they were excited to learn more.

When Waste Wise first met with Shepherd of the Lake, a recycling program was already in place, but not all areas of the building had recycling bins. Unfortunately, recyclables generated in those areas were ending up in the trash. By applying for the Scott County recycling grant, the church was able to add more than a dozen new double-stream waste stations throughout the building. The church's preschool also received their own kids-oriented recycling bins that will be used for the school's unit on recycling.

Staff member Donna Hanson says she has noticed a change in recycling

since using the new bins. "The co-located recycling and trash bins seem to be better utilized than before. They look nice and draw more attention to recycling," she said.

So far, Shepherd of the Lake has increased their recycling by at least 725 pounds a year as a result of their new bins. They plan to do educational outreach for the staff and congregation to help boost participation and proper sorting. With their continued educational efforts, the church looks forward to increasing their recycling and reducing their trash even more.



Donna Hanson said the new bins have increased recycling.

Invasive species easily spread; caution advised

Invasive species are a hot topic in Minnesota. With our 10,000 lakes, beautiful forests, and many other scenic habitats, Minnesotans have much to appreciate and preserve outdoors. However, invasive species are very real threats to our beautiful outdoor landscapes. In 2016, Scott County was put under quarantine for ash wood products and firewood because of a tiny bug called the Emerald Ash Borer. This little bug is just one of many invasive species out there, but it causes a lot of destruction.

Emerald Ash Borer larvae have insatiable appetites for ash tree species, and often kill the host trees. The larvae overwinter under the tree bark in "S" shaped galleries and emerge as fully grown adults from "D" shaped exit holes around May 1.

Invasive species like Emerald Ash Borer, Gypsy Moths, or Zebra Mussels may be spread to new places as people move firewood or other infected products or equipment without realizing the pests are tagging along. Please help make communities safe, healthy, and livable and follow these tips:

- **Do not transport firewood or ash wood products to other counties.** MDA sells firewood certified to be free of pests.
- If you have firewood that may be infected with larvae, **burning it before May 1** would prevent spreading the Emerald Ash Borer.
- **Check any vehicles, boats, equipment, or items being hauled**



Emerald Ash Borer

for evidence of pest tag-alongs like egg sacks, parts of plants, seeds, or exit holes. And if you're unsure, give your vehicles, boats, equipment, or haul a good pressure-wash. It's a good idea to always pressure wash boats when moving them from lake to lake, because zebra mussel larvae are invisible to the naked eye.

- **Keep your eyes open for the invasive species.** Report any possible invasive species or infected products to the *Arrest a Pest* program at (888) 545-6684 or by emailing Arrest.The.Pest@state.mn.us.

- **Visit the Scott County Invasive Species web pages** for more information about how to identify pests like the Emerald Ash Borer (and if your ash tree is infected): <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/invasive>

- **Visit the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Plant and Pests website** for up-to-date information about quarantine zones and restrictions in them; volunteer opportunities and trainings to identify the Emerald Ash Borer and other species; and where to dispose of infected ash trees/wood in Scott County (look under Emerald Ash Borer). <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants.aspx>

- **Clean, Drain, and Dry your boat** according to Minnesota DNR guidance, and report aquatic invasive species to the local DNR expert. In our case, the expert to call is Keegan Lund at (651) 259-5828. Find training and other resources on DNR's Aquatic Invasive Species website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/>.



MDA
CERTIFIED
FIREWOOD

The only safe to move firewood in Minnesota



Stop the spread of insects that destroy our trees. Buy only heat-treated MDA Certified Firewood.



Local farmers' markets offer a variety of fresh produce, plants, and other food items throughout the growing season.

Visit a local farmers' market this summer

What heralds the season of summer more than fresh, locally-grown produce? Celebrate summer by visiting one or more of the great local farmers' markets right here in our own community.

Prior Lake Farmers' Market (May 5 – October)

The 15th season of the Prior Lake Farmers' Market began on May 6 and will continue each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon until October. Live music is provided almost every weekend, and breakfast is cooked right on site. There are many more new and returning vendors this year, including Master Gardeners to help with gardening questions. The Prior Lake Farmers' Market is located on Main Street (downtown Prior Lake, just off of Highway 13 and County Road 21). There is free parking at many of the local businesses. For more information, please visit their website at www.priorlakefarmersmarket.com.

Belle Plaine Farmers' Market (Wednesdays through October 10)

Located at Court Square Park (410 N. Cedar St., Belle Plaine), the Belle Plaine Farmers' Market features hardy perennials, fresh produce, maple syrup, crafts and more! There is a variety of homemade/homegrown products -- something for everyone! Food trucks are often on site. The market is held on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, or to become a vendor, contact Rick Krant at (952) 217-1385. The Belle Plaine Historical Society sponsors the 2018 Belle Plaine Farmers' Market.

New Prague Farmers' Market (May 6 – October)

The New Prague Farmers' Market (Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. [starting in mid-June]) is proud to provide fresh, locally grown, high quality produce. A variety of vegetables and fruits are available in season, and started plants -- such as tomatoes, peppers, cabbages, et cetera -- as well as fruit trees and perennials are available in the spring. Scrumptious baked goods, jellies and jams, honey, and other foods are available all season long. A limited number of craft such as beeswax candles, soaps, and bath salts are also featured. The New Prague Farmers' Market is held in the parking lot of the East Town Commons. This is located on the corner Main Street and 7th Avenue SE (near Carbone's) in New Prague. For more information, please contact Joe Bisek at ajbisek@bevcomm.net or at (952) 994-5632. (Waiting for updated info)

Savage Farmers' Market (June 3 – October 28)

Located at 4800 West 123rd, the Savage Farmers' Market opens June 3 and will be held on Sundays (from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.) through October 28. In addition to their flagship market in downtown St. Paul, the St. Paul Farmers' Markets run 20 neighborhood markets throughout the metropolitan area -- one right in the heart of Savage! Expect to find fresh produce, plants, flowers, baked goods, honey, handmade chocolates, and other specialty foods from local producers. Market staff can be reached at (651) 227-8101 or via e-mail to info@stpaulfarmersmarket.com.

St. Francis Regional Medical Center Farmers' Market, Shakopee (Tuesdays, June 12 through Aug. 28, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Located in the north lot across from Target along 17th Ave. Features Great Harvest Bread Co., fresh produce, crafts, and more.

Lydia Farmers' Market (Saturdays and Tuesdays, June 30 through October 27)

Located at Highway 13 and County Road 10 (in the parking lot of Zion United Methodist Church), the market is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon and Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 p.m. The market offers fresh vegetables, home canned goods, woodwork, fresh eggs, and baked goods. Homemade Mexican food is available on Saturdays.

If you have information about other farmers' markets in and around Scott County, please contact Lisa Kohner at (952) 496-8780 or via e-mail at lkohner@co.scott.mn.us to be included in an upcoming issue of *the SCENE!*



Locally grown, high quality fresh produce is available at the farmers' markets in Scott County.

Healthy SCENE

By Laurie McMillen
Public Health Case Aide



Prevention is the best medicine

Disease prevention and health promotion are central to many of the Scott County Public Health programs. The philosophy of *preventing* health concerns versus *treating* them provides a return on investment in both the long and short term. Cost-effective prevention programs can lower costs in health care, and these savings can then roll into more health promotion activities for all residents.

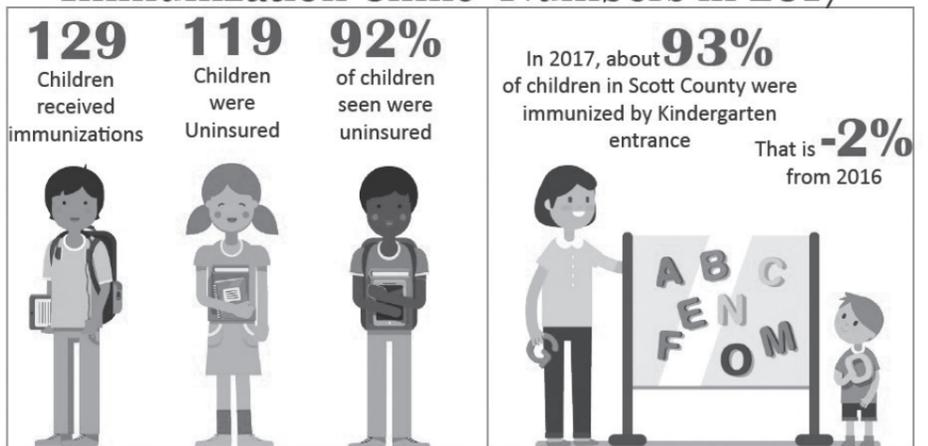
When looking at disease prevention, **immunizations** rise to the top of the list. Children are required to have immunizations to attend school or educational programs at four different periods of their life. Children going to daycare or early childhood programs need to have eight different immunizations, some with multiple doses. It is important these immunizations begin after birth to give children the best defense against disease. The timing of these immunizations is also critical. Between birth and age five, when children enter into kindergarten, they will need over 20 immunizations. Staying on an immunization schedule not only gives the best defense for disease, but also limits the number of immunizations needed when getting ready for school. Once children start elementary school, the number of immunizations needed decrease but remain vital to health. Teens going into seventh grade will finish off their school required shots -- until they start college.

Public Health recommends children receive immunizations during their medical clinic wellness checks. However, this could cost uninsured families hundreds of dollars in out-of-pocket expenses. To help fill this gap, Public Health provides immunizations to uninsured and under-insured children at our Immunization and Walk-In Clinics. In 2017, the clinics gave over 1,000 immunizations to almost 129 children. Scott County Public Health is able to give uninsured and under-insured people these immunizations at no cost, thanks to a federal program. Families who come to the clinic are welcome to provide a small donation to Public Health, but it is not required.

In addition to immunizations, regular medical and dental visits are also cornerstone to disease prevention. The Scott County Child and Teen Checkups program is a *free* benefit to all people ages birth to 20 on Medical Assistance. The program works with parents and children to increase the number of preventive wellness checkups. Program staff focus on reaching out to new members and providing reminders to families when it is time for a child's checkup. In 2017, 12,542 people between the ages of birth to 20 were enrolled in the C&TC program. C&TC staff spent the past year focusing on sending out welcome and introduction letters, making introduction calls, and attending community health events to provide health promotion education.

In 2017, the Scott County C&TC Coordinator formed a collaboration with local dentists to address this health issue. The collaboration met to discuss the Medical Assistance reimbursement rates and ways to increase the number of dentists available to C&TC members. During this time, additional dental offices opened their doors for C&TC members. C&TC staff are hopeful that the increased access to dental care will help children get the care they need on a regular basis.

Immunization Clinic Numbers in 2017



Businesses invited to join Employer of Excellence program

Employers of all sizes can see how they stack up with other organizations in the community by participating in the *Employers of Excellence* program being offered by the Dakota Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB).

With unemployment rates low in both Dakota and Scott counties, businesses need to know how to best recruit and retain employees. Each company participating in the *Employers of Excellence* program completes a 40-question survey and then receives a detailed, confidential report to compare their business to others in the community.

The survey will be open June 1 through July 31 to all organizations that have been in business in Dakota and Scott Counties for at least two years.

There are *no costs* associated in participating, as all expenses are being covered by the Workforce Development Board and area sponsors -- including Dakota County Technical College, Inver Hills Community College, Dakota County Community Development Agency, and Scott County CDA.

Businesses that enter the program will be eligible to be formally recognized as an "Employer of Excellence" at a luncheon on Sept. 27.

For more information, contact Workforce Development Board Director Mark Jacobs at (651) 554-5622 or Scott County CDA/First Stop Shop Business Development Director Stacy Crakes at (952) 496-8613 or scrakes@scottfss.org.

Library Summer Reading Program begins June 9

summer SPOTLIGHT

Kids who engage in learning activities during the summer start their next school year ready to learn. Help prevent summer learning loss in your child with the *free* offerings at your local library! **Summer Spotlight**, the library's new summer reading program, offers a summer's worth of fun and enriching events and reading incentives for kids from birth to 18 years of age.

We're also bringing back the **Great Summer Read Down**, the opportunity to read down library late fees over the summer. Anyone can earn \$2 off their library card fees for every 20 minutes they read in the library between May 24 and August 31.

Summer Spotlight is too big and exciting for just one article! Visit your local library or our website at www.scottlib.org/srp for:

- The full schedule of performers, parties, and book clubs.
- How to earn rewards for reading and learning activities with either our online OR print tracking forms.
- How to win Family 4-Packs of State Fair tickets and other great giveaways.
- Locations and open hours of all seven of our libraries.

We welcome your family to the library this summer!

Summer Spotlight is supported by the *Scott County Library and Metropolitan Library Services Agency (MELSA)*.

Additional support provided by local *Friends of the Library, Minnesota State Fair, Minnesota Twins, Star Tribune, KARE11, Crayola Experience MOA, Sea Life MOA, and Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

Scott County Library locations and contact info:

- Belle Plaine:** 125 W Main, (952) 873-6767, bplibrary@scottlib.org
- Elko New Market:** 110 J Roberts Way, (952) 496-8030, nmlibrary@scottlib.org
- Jordan:** 275 Creek Lane S, (952) 496-8050, jolibrary@scottlib.org
- New Prague:** 400 E Main St, (952) 758-8026, nplibrary@scottlib.org
- Prior Lake:** 16210 Eagle Creek Ave SE, (952) 447-3375, pllibrary@scottlib.org
- Savage:** 13090 Alabama Ave S, (952) 707-1770, salibrary@scottlib.org
- Shakopee:** 235 Lewis St S, (952) 233-9590, [shlibrary@s\(cottlib.org](mailto:shlibrary@s(cottlib.org)



Events by library location:

Belle Plaine events for kids

Weekly events:

Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m.--Arty Smarty (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art at this pop-in program!

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.—Spotlight Storytime (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

More events for kids:

Wednesday, June 13, 2-3 p.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 5-11)

Thursday, June 14, 4 p.m. — **Summer Kickoff: Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo**

Tuesday, June 19, 10:30 a.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!

Thursday, June 21, 2-3 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)

Tuesday, June 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-In Party** (Ages 2-6)

Tuesday, July 3, 10:30-11:30 a.m. —

- **For links to more details and registration, visit www.scottlib.org/SRP -- events that require registration are marked with * at the beginning.**
- **Events are 30 minutes long unless otherwise noted. Please arrive early, as space is limited.**
- **Some events may not be able to accommodate large groups (such as daycares) if program supplies or space are limited. Please call the library in advance with questions about group size.**



*Let's Code with Luna! (Ages 6-8)

Tuesday, July 3, 12-1 p.m. —

***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna (Ages 9-11)**

Thursday, July 5, 2-2:45 p.m. —

***Escape from Pompeii (Ages 9-11)**

Tuesday, July 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)

Wednesday, July 11, 2-5 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Block Printing with Bob** (All Ages)

Thursday, July 12, 1:30-3 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Block Printing with Bob Workshop** (Ages 6-11)

Wednesday, July 18, 4-5 p.m. — **Superhero Olympics Pop-In Party** (Ages 6-11)

Thursday, July 19, 5-6 p.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)

Tuesday, July 24, 2-3 p.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*

Wednesday, July 25, 4-4:45 p.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

Tuesday, July 31, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12)

Thursday, August 2, 4-5 p.m.—**Lego Pop-In Party** (Ages 6-11)

Belle Plaine events for tweens: Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, June 21, 4-5 p.m. — **Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament and more gaming fun!

Wednesday, June 27, 4-6 p.m. — **Poke Ball Terrariums:** Calling all Pokemon fans! Come design and make your very own Poke Ball terrarium.

Wednesday, July 18, 1:30-2:30 p.m. — **Make a Mega Poster:** Learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the internet!

Thursday, July 19, 3-4 p.m. — **Girls Code with Luna:** Join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then rainstorm and collaborate on a design challenge!

Belle Plaine events for teens: Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, June 28, 4-5 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down!** Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your and your teammates' skills to escape. The clock is ticking and you have one hour!

Thursday, July 12, 4-6 p.m. -- **Name Block**

Carving and Painting: Create a design with your name on a silicone block, carve it, then make prints with local artist Bob Pollard!

Elko New Market events for kids:

Weekly events:

Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m. -- **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art at this pop-in program!

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.— **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

More kid events:

Monday, June 11, 2-3 p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)

Monday, June 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)

Wednesday, June 13, 2 p.m. — **Summer Kickoff: Bruce the Bug Guy**

Friday, June 15, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)

Mondays, June 18, July 2, 16, and 30,

2-3 p.m. — **First Step STEM Mini Pop-In** (Ages 3-6)

Wednesday, June 20, 2-3 p.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for**

Preschoolers (Ages 3-6)

Monday, June 25, 2-4 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Painting with Lynette** (All Ages)

Tuesday, June 26, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Animal Portraits with Lynette** (Ages 6-11)

Wednesday, June 27, 2 p.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!

Monday, July 9, 2-3 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)

Wednesday, July 11, 2-3 p.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 5-11)

Fridays, July 13 and August 3, 2-3 p.m. — **Listen and Doodle** (Ages 6-11)

Tuesday, July 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party** (Ages 2-6)

Wednesday, July 18, 2-2:45 p.m.



Bruce the Bug Guy will kick off the Summer Reading Program at the Elko New Market Library Wednesday, June 13 with a 2 p.m. show.

— **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

Monday, July 23, 2-3 p.m. — **Crafty Science Pop-In Palooza** (Ages 6-11)

Tuesday, July 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2-3 p.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12)

Elko New Market events for tweens: Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.

Monday, June 18, 5-6 p.m. — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internet!

Wednesday, June 20, 4-5 p.m. — **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

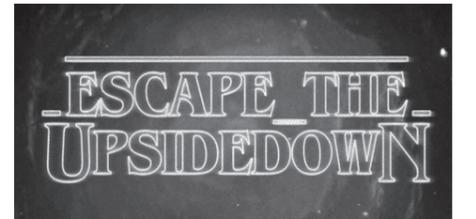
Monday, July 9, 4-5p.m. — **Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!

Elko New Market events for teens: Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Tuesday, June 26, 2-4 p.m. — **People Portraits with Lynette:** Artist Lynette LaRue will introduce techniques for painting realistic portraits.

Wednesday, July 25, 4-5 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down!** Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your and your teammates' skills to escape. The clock is ticking and you have one hour!

Wednesday, July 11, 4-5 p.m. — **Feed**



Me More: New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **ACT Test Prep:** For grades 9 and up. De-stress the test! Come to our free ACT test prep session at the library.

Jordan events for kids:

Weekly events

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. — **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. — **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art at this pop-in program!

More events for kids:

Monday, June 11, 2-3 p.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 5-11)

Thursday, June 14, 10:30 a.m. — **Summer Kickoff: Mixed Nuts Comedy Show**

Monday, June 18, 3-5 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Sand Printing with Shakun** (All Ages)

Tuesday, June 19, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12): Discovery what being an archaeologist is all about.

Wednesday, June 20, 1-3 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Block Printing with Shakun** (Ages 9-11)

Thursday, June 21, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)

READING PROGRAM to next page

Summer Spotlight includes entertainers, incentives

Monday, June 25, 2-3 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)
Thursday, July 12, 10:30 a.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!
Monday, July 16, 4-5 p.m. — **Superhero Olympics Pop-In Party** (Ages 6-11)
Thursday, July 19, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)
Monday, July 23, 2-2:45 p.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.
Wednesday, July 25, 3-4 p.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)
Thursday, July 26, 1-2 p.m. — **Lego Pop-In Party** (Ages 6-11)
Monday, July 30, 2-3 p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)
Monday, July 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 3-4 p.m. — **Book Folding Hedgehogs** (Ages 6-11)
Thursday, Aug. 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party** (Ages 2-6)
Monday, Aug. 6, 2-3 p.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*

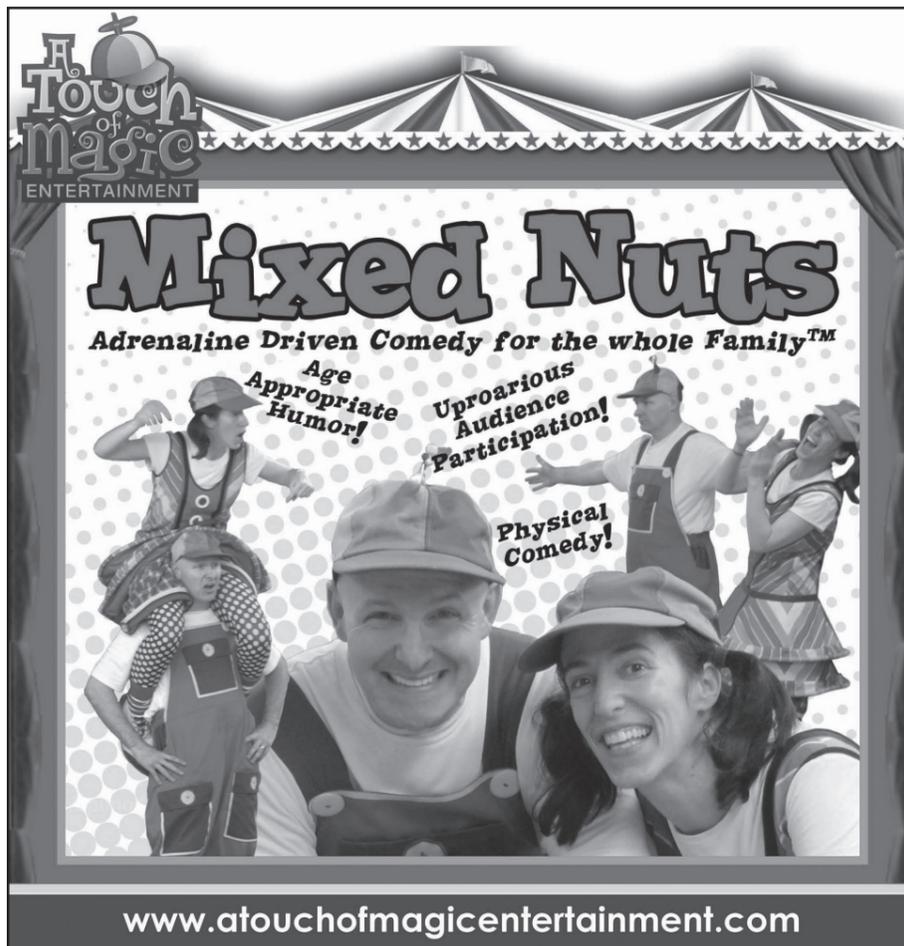
Jordan events for tweens: Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.
Wednesday, June 13, 3-4 p.m. — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using the power of your imagination, scissors, tape, and the Internets!
Monday, June 25, 4-5 p.m. — **Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!
Tuesday, July 10, 4-5 p.m. — **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

Jordan events for teens: Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Wednesday, June 20, 4-6 p.m. -- **Batik Workshop:** Use hot wax, dyes, and cloth to create your own unique batik piece in the tradition of India with Spotlight artist Shakun Maheshwari.
Wednesday, July 11, 3-4 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down!** Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your and your teammates' skills to escape. You have one hour!

New Prague events for kids

Weekly events:
Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m. — **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art at this pop-in program!
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. — **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!
More events for kids:
Tuesday, June 5, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*
Saturday, June 9, 11 a.m. — Summer Kickoff: **Magician Mike Madden**
Tuesday, June 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 5-11)
Thursday, June 14, 2-3 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)
Monday, June 18, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. —



Mixed Nuts will perform at the Elko New Market Library Summer Reading Program Kickoff on Thursday, June 14 at 10:30 a.m. They will also perform Monday, July 16 at 2 p.m. at the Shakopee Library.

***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)
Monday, June 18, 1-2 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)
Thursday, June 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)
Monday, June 25, 2-3 p.m. — **Superhero Olympics Pop-In Party** (Ages 6-11)
Tuesday, June 26, 10:30 a.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!
Wednesday, June 27, 4-4:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)
Monday, July 9, 2-3:30 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Rainbow Trolls Workshop** (Ages 6-11)
Tuesday, July 10, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Story Clayteller and Make and Take** (All Ages)
Monday, July 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party** (Ages 2-6)
Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 a.m. — **Alan Johnson, Comedy Juggler:** Sponsored by New Prague FOL.
Wednesday, July 18, 4-4:45 p.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and**

Engineering Extravaganza (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.
Thursday, July 19, 2-3 p.m. — **Crafty Science Palooza** (Ages 6-11)
Thursday, Aug. 2, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12): Discovery what being an archaeologist is all about.
Monday, Aug. 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)



Comedy Juggler Alan Johnson will perform Tuesday, July 17 at 10:30 a.m. at the New Prague Library.

New Prague events for tweens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 4:-5 p.m. unless otherwise noted): Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.
Thursday, June 14 — **Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-

player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!
Thursday, June 21 — **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!
Thursday, June 28 — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internets!

New Prague events for teens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 4:-5 p.m. unless otherwise noted): Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.
Thursday, June 7 — **Escape the Upside Down!** Trapped in the mysterious Upsidedown you must leverage you and your teammates' skills to escape. You have ONE HOUR!
Thursday, July 12, 4-6 p.m. -- **Mini-Me! Clay Character Workshop:** Create a cartoon version of yourself with polymer clay with Spotlight artist Maureen Carlson.
Thursday, July 26 — **Feed Me More:** New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Prior Lake events for kids

Weekly events:
Mondays, 1-2 p.m. -- **Waggin' Tales** (Ages 6-11): Pop-in to read to a certified therapy dog!
Tuesdays, 11-11:30 a.m. -- **First Step STEM** (Ages 3-6): Explore different STEM project each week!
Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m. -- **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art each week at this pop-in program!
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. — **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!
Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. — **Reading Buddies** (all ages): Read to or with our youth volunteers.
Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Grand Readers** (all ages): Pop-in for stories from a special volunteer.

More events for kids:

Monday, June 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)
Monday, June 11, 2-3 p.m. — Summer

Kickoff: Raptor Center
Saturday, June 16, noon — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!
Monday, June 18 and July 16, 2:30-3:15 p.m. — ***Popcorn Club** (Book Club for Ages 9-11)
Tuesday, June 19, 6:-7 p.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party** (Ages 2-6)
Fridays, June 22 and July 13, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Book Club** (Ages 7-9)
Monday, June 25, 4-7: p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Pewter Casting with Jessica** (All Ages; please allow 30 minutes to complete your project)
Monday, July 2, 11 a.m.-noon p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)
Monday, July 2, 1-2 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)
Tuesday, July 3, 6-7 p.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*
Monday, July 9, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 6-11)
Tuesday, July 10, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. and August 7, 6-7 p.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)
Tuesday, July 17, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12): Discovery what being an archaeologist is all about.
Tuesday, July 17, 6-6:45 p.m. — **Three Rivers Storytime** with animal guest.
Thursday, July 19, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — **Kids and Teen Booksale:** Proceeds go to the Teen Advisory Board
Friday, July 27, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)
Monday, July 30, 10:30-11:15 a.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.
Thursday, Aug. 2, 4-5 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)

Prior Lake events for tweens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 2-3 p.m. unless otherwise noted): Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.
Thursday, June 21 — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internets!
Tuesday, June 26, 2-4 p.m. -- **Pewter Casting with Jessica:** Create and cast your own small lead-free pewter piece with Spotlight artist Jessica Bergman Tank of Pedal to the Metal Foundry!
Tuesday, July 10, 1:30-2:30 p.m. -- **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

Thursday, Aug. 2 — **Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!

Prior Lake events for teens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 2-3 p.m. unless otherwise noted): Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.
Thursday, June 14 — **Pie Club:** Enjoy pie and the library's best and newest teen books!
Thursday, June 28 — **Feed Me More:** New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Thursday, July 12 — **Escape the Upside**
READING PROGRAM to page 13





A variety of events are held in Scott County every year, from the Draft Horse Shows at the County Fair to the quilt auction at the St. John's Church Fall Festival in Jordan, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Enjoy summertime events in Scott County

Summer is the *perfect* time to attend a variety of festivals, get acquainted with other Scott County residents, and spend time with old friends. Below is a schedule of some of the upcoming local events in and around your community. Please contact Lisa Kohner, Scott County Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 if you would like to have your organization's activities or special events highlighted in next year's summer events issue. And be sure to check your local papers and community websites for further details – *happy summer!*

June 17	Chicken Cookout at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Elko New Market
June 20	Ice Cream Social at St. John's Lutheran Church, Belle Plaine
June 21-24	Dan Patch Days in Savage, including a parade on Saturday at 11 a.m. and fireworks at dusk Saturday
June 21-24	Elko New Market Fire/Rescue Days, including a community parade at 1 p.m. Saturday, followed by games, food, and fun at Wagner Park
July 13-14	Lakefront Music Fest in Prior Lake
July 13-15	Bar-B-Q Days in Belle Plaine, including a Grande Day parade at noon on Saturday and fireworks Sunday evening
July 15	Free Ice Cream Social at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Elko New Market
July 20-22	Credit River Antique Tractor Club Show and Flea Market, Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, 400 West 260th St., New Prague). For more information, visit http://crtractor.com
July 21	Midsummer Festival, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park. Visit www.threeriversparks.org
July 22	Parish Festival at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Cedar Lake Township, rural New Prague
July 25-29	Scott County Fair (see pages 1-2 in this SCENE issue)
July 28	St. Catherine Catholic Church of Spring Lake Township Country Garden Tour & Luncheon, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Visit www.stcatherineccw.wixsite.com/gardentour
July 28	Parish of Saints Joachim & Anne Julifest, Shakopee
August 2-4	Lakefront Days in Prior Lake, including a parade on Saturday, at 10 a.m.
August 3-5	55th Annual Old Time Harvest Steam and Gas Engine Festival, rural Jordan
August 11-12	Parish Festival at St. Wenceslaus, New Prague
August 17-19	Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Wacipi or Pow Wow
August 19	Parish of Saints Joachim & Anne Parish Festival, St. Mary's Church of Marystown
September 7-8	Heimatfest at Lagoon Park in Jordan; car cruise and street dance Friday evening, downtown Jordan; Saturday parade at 11 a.m., and fireworks at 9 p.m.
September 8	Parish Festival at Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine, beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday
September 16	St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Fall Festival in Jordan
September 21-22	Dozinky celebration in New Prague; car cruise Friday evening and parade at noon Saturday

Park improvements made, more planned

This article is third in a series highlighting key strategies coming out of the draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which will guide growth and development of Scott County over the next two decades. With population growth projected to increase in both the cities and townships, the County's draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan provides a number of new approaches to maintain a high quality of life while protecting the county's unique identity and natural environment. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan is anticipated to be adopted by the County Board at the end of 2018. To learn more about the plan and view or request notices on upcoming public events, check out the 2040 homepage at www.scottcountymn.gov/439/2040-Comprehensive-Plan.

Envision a regional park system that provides a diversity of activities and natural spaces across the County to be enjoyed by all. Imagine a regional trail system that provides connections to parks, lakes, population centers, and interconnects with the state and city trail systems as well as neighboring County systems. Our regional system should be a place where residents and visitors come to bike, hike, camp, horseback ride, and paddle. This grand vision for a regional park and trail system in Scott County began in the early 2000s, with adoption of the first Scott County parks plan, and reinforced again in County's 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

A decade of progress

In the ten years since the 2030 plan was completed, substantial progress has been made towards this grand vision. "When you look at where our parks and trail system was in 2008 compared to now, you see that the progress has been substantial. The expansion of services has helped address the needs of current park users and land acquisition for future regional facilities ensures that the system will be able to support the growing population of the region and County," said Scott Fuhrman, Parks and Natural Resources Coordinator. Hundreds of acres of land have been preserved for future generations. Natural resources and significant wildlife habitat have been conserved. And many community partners were a part of accomplishing this progress.

Supporting these efforts were two essential events that occurred soon after the completion of the 2030 plan – the passing of the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy amendment, and a new operational partnership with Three Rivers Park District.

The Legacy amendment has allocated funding to preserve natural spaces and protect our natural resources, and the partnership with Three Rivers Park District has allowed the Parks and Trails program in Scott County to provide the residents of Scott County with high quality recreation and programming opportunities.

Accomplishments of the past decade include:

- New parks: -Opened two new regional parks (Cedar Lake Farm and Spring Lake).
- Trails: Added 12 miles of multi-use paved trails within regional parks, seven miles of hiking trails, and completed an additional three miles of the Scott West Regional Trail.
- Off leash pet areas: Added two off leash pet areas (Murphy-Hanrehan



and Spring Lake).

- Improved accessibility and enhanced existing facilities, including ADA accessible beaches, remodeled buildings for improved customer service (Cleary Lake and Cedar Lake Farm), upgrading a golf range and practice greens (Cleary Lake),
- Took care of existing infrastructure, including reconstructing park entrance roads, preventative maintenance on all asphalt infrastructure, and creating a pavement management plan
- Planning: Master planning for three regional trails (Spring Lake, Scott West, and Minnesota River Bluffs Extension Regional Trails); two regional parks (Doyle-Kennefick and Cedar Lake Farm) and one park reserve (Blakeley Bluffs).
- Protected land and future recreation: Acquired 738 acres of land and restored 353 acres of wildlife habitat.
- Partnered: Worked through partnerships to move forward with acquisition, development, maintenance, and operations.
- Developed a new operating partnership with Three Rivers Park District.

Looking ahead to 2040

Findings from the 2040 community engagement process confirmed that the achievements of the last ten years have been a success, but also indicate gaps and areas of concern to address in order to continue meeting community expectations to 2040.

The 2040 Parks and Trails plan recommends the following key strategies which emerged through community engagement, park user and resident studies, and staff observations:

Promote awareness and use of all park and trail facilities. The park and trail system exists in order to serve people. Continued engagement with the community, education about our facilities and programs, and increasing awareness for people who are less familiar with what our system offers will encourage use of the parks.

Improve and focus on increasing inclusiveness. Improving accessibility and equity is a central area for the Parks and Trails program, with the ultimate goal of an inclusive and accessible park and trail system. Specific strategies include a focus on accessible infrastructure, adaptive programming equipment, and adaptive programs. The Park District continues to support staff in building greater cultural competency, promoting activities to underserved populations through targeted outreach, and social media outreach. Research and community engagement also helps to improve understanding of our community and their interests.

Lakefront improvements at Spring Lake Regional Park. When the land for Spring Lake Regional Park was purchased in the 1960s, the County intended this to be a place for residents to enjoy nature. The opening of the park in 2012 was an important first step; the

PARK PLANS to page 19



in partnership with



Creating Experiences on the Water

The evening is calm and mild, as the sun warmly touches your face. The water mirrors the trees along the opposite shoreline, and a fish splashes nearby as a hawk glides overhead. Your boat rocks slightly while paddling to a different spot. There's something special about spending time on a Minnesota lake.

As a paddling volunteer, you get to share similar experiences with others and encourage them to get outside during a fun, safe outing on the water. In addition to the health benefits of being in nature and volunteering, you can inspire a new passion by promoting a lifelong skill of canoeing, kayaking or stand-up paddleboarding.

Paddling volunteers are needed at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park and Cleary Lake Regional Park. Volunteers help with loading and unloading boats, group management on the water, and other program logistics.

Other ways to get involved this summer:

- Explore volunteer opportunities during Midsummer Festival at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park on July 21.
- Help with fishing, archery and other programs for school groups and summer camps at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park and Cleary Lake Regional Park.
- Connect others with the history of the Minnesota River valley as a cultural history interpreter or building host at The Landing.

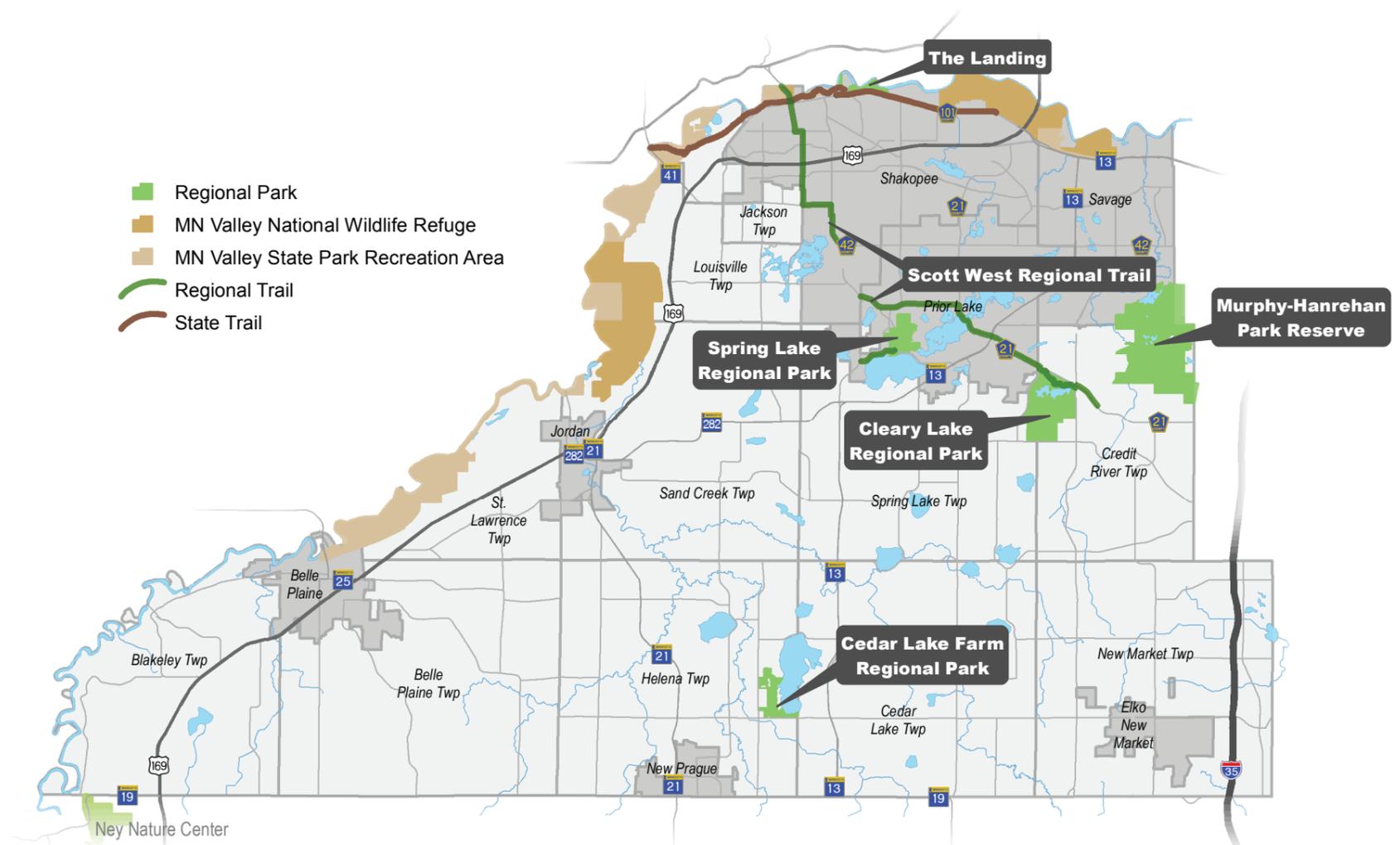
Visit ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer for more information or contact volunteer@threeriversparks.org or 763.559.6706 to get involved in your parks today.

Joint Powers Agreement

Under this agreement, Scott County and Three Rivers Park District combine resources to collectively operate all regional parks and trails in Scott County.



Regional Parks in Scott County



parks & trails

check ThreeRiversParks.org for additional information

Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park

25875 Juniper Avenue, New Prague, MN 56071
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

Located on the south shore of Cedar Lake near New Prague, the former Cedar Lake Farm and Day Resort property has family and group picnicking, catered events, swimming, and fishing.

camp

Cedarview Group Camp is available for tent camping, with a capacity up to 30 people. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

picnic area

Dine al fresco. This site offers a spectacular setting for a casual family picnic or a unique family reunion, graduation party, outdoor wedding/reception, company picnic, and groups of all ages and all occasions. We recommend you visit the park well before your event date to explore the options you have to choose from. While there are no fully-enclosed group reservation areas, a picnic shelter is available. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

Cleary Lake Regional Park

18106 Texas Avenue, Prior Lake, MN 55372
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

This park is one of the most popular year-round recreation spots in the south metro. With amenities including a 9-hole golf course, campground, picnic area, swimming beach, cross-country ski trails and more, this beautiful park has something for everyone.

boat rental & fishing pier

A launch is located on the south shore of Cleary Lake; no gas motors are allowed. Boat rentals for paddleboat, canoe, kayak, row boat or stand-up paddleboard are available. An accessible fishing pier is located on Cleary Lake. Anglers must have a valid Minnesota fishing license.

camp

Roughing it was never so easy! Several campsites ranging in size are located in Cleary Lake Park for outdoor enthusiasts. Visit ThreeRiversParks.org for more information.

dog off-leash area

A 28-acre off-leash area provides great opportunities to exercise dogs. The area is fenced and has a wetland pond. Daily or annual pass is required.

golf

The scenic terrain of Cleary Lake Golf Course draws both beginner and experienced golfers. The 9-hole executive course and driving range offer a full range of amenities for an all-around enjoyable experience. The course also features FootGolf where you kick a soccer ball towards a proportionate-sized hole using the same rules of golf. At the Golf Academy, our most important goal is to maximize your enjoyment of the game of golf. Group and private lessons, clinics and camps are available for youth and adults. For more information or to register, visit ThreeRiversParks.org.

picnic areas

The southeast shore of Cleary Lake serves both picnickers and swimmers. The area features the Cleary Lake Pavilion – a great spot for casual wedding receptions, corporate events and birthday parties – and both sheltered reservation and non-reservation picnic sites. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve

15501 Murphy Lake Road, Savage, MN 55378
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

The peaceful wilderness at Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve in northeast Scott County features glacial ridges, hilly terrain and an extensive lush forest. This is one of the most challenging cross-country ski areas in the Twin Cities and a favorite spot for mountain bikers. With the exception of the trails and the 3-acre dog off-leash area, the park reserve remains undeveloped, making it the best park in Three Rivers for birdwatchers to spot woodland songbirds. This park has also been designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society.

boat launch

Enjoy the placid waters. A concrete boat launch is located off County Road 75. No gas motors or gas augers are allowed; electric trolling motors only.

dog off-leash area

The fenced, 3-acre area includes space for large and small dogs to run and includes a water fountain and a dog washing station. Daily or annual pass is required.

camp

Group horse campsites are located in the southern section of the park and accommodates up to 20 horses. Reservations are required.



boat rental

Stand-up paddleboards, kayaks and canoes are available for rent Fridays–Sundays and holidays from Memorial Day weekend (Saturday) to Labor Day. Rental hours are 10 AM to 7 PM.

swimming & fishing

Cool off during the hot days in Cedar Lake or cast a line from shore or the fishing pier. Anglers must have a valid Minnesota fishing license.



play area

A small play area is located near the picnic pavilion and boat rental. It features a variety of slides, tunnels, nets and other climbing components.

swimming beach

Spish, splash! An unguarded beach is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

trails

Get your blood pumping with a brisk walk. A trail with rest stops and a water pump loops around Cleary Lake. The trail has connections leading to both the east and west for access from outside the park. Walk your dog on miles of trails that wind through the park. Dogs are allowed on all paved trails with a 6-foot, non-retractable leash.

visitor center

A year-round facility provides concessions, restrooms, a lounge area, meeting room, and exhibits. In the summer, the visitor center serves as a golf course clubhouse. In the winter, the building serves as the trailhead for cross-country ski trails.



mountain bike trail

A singletrack mountain bike trail with advanced, intermediate, and easy loops is offered on this 10-mile sustainable trail. The course is open year-round and presses riders with several technical features and varying levels of difficulty. Year-round races are available; visit ThreeRiversParks.org for more information.

trails

Roam the pristine expanse at your pace. The hiking-only Wood Duck trail is very hilly and takes hikers through oak woods. Riders can enjoy the scenic beauty of this park reserve on horseback year-round. A trailer parking lot is available. A daily pass or annual permit is required for horseback riders. The dog trail at Murphy-Hanrehan is a part of the horse trail. The trail can be accessed from the horse trailer parking lot on Sunset Lake Road. Dog-walkers are required to keep their dogs on 6-foot, non-retractable leashes.

Spring Lake Regional Park

15851 Howard Lake Road, Prior Lake, MN 55372
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM daily

Located on the north shore of Spring Lake and near the southwest shore of Prior Lake, Spring Lake Regional Park offers 374 acres of incredibly diverse natural habitats. Every day, eagles readily soar in the sky. The old maple-basswood forest creates a beautiful backdrop for a peaceful stroll. A small creek winds through a maze of open water wetlands, cattail marshes and a tamarack bog.

dog off-leash area

A 10-acre, off-leash pet area with a watering and rinsing station provides a wonderful opportunity for dog owners to exercise their dogs. There are two separate, fully fenced areas: 9 acres for large dogs and 1 acre for small and frail dogs. A daily or annual pass is required.

trails

A spectacular, 4.4-mile paved trail takes visitors through forest and savanna prairie offering breathtaking vistas. Each season provides a unique opportunity to explore the beautiful habitat that supports a variety of wildlife. The trail connects the park from north to south, as well as to County Road 12. Dogs are allowed on all paved trails with a 6-foot, non-retractable leash.

The Landing

2187 Highway 101 East, Shakopee, MN 55379
Phone: 763.694.7784
Hours: Memorial Day weekend–October 31
Mon-Sat: 10 AM–5 PM, Sun: Noon–5 PM

Nestled on the Minnesota River near Shakopee, The Landing – Minnesota River Heritage Park interprets how people have connected with the Minnesota River Valley and the surrounding cultural and natural resources. Discover how 19th-century Minnesotans established their lives on the frontier, farmsteads and in villages. Historical buildings are laid out as a timeline from the pre-territorial era through the late 1800s. Explore the grounds by yourself using interpretive media or while costumed interpreters bring the past alive at living history days and events. The Landing is available by reservation for groups, weddings, and celebrations. Special events and scheduled programs are offered throughout the year. **Pets are not allowed.**

living history days

Join scheduled tours, hands-on activities – maybe even meet someone right off the pages of history. Offered Wednesdays through Sundays May 30 to August 31, see page 12 for additional details or call 763.694.7784 for daily schedule.

themed living history events

Explore more and immerse yourself in a different aspect of 1800s life in the Minnesota Valley at each event. Visit with costumed characters living in the frontier, farmstead, and village. Food concessions available. Offered year-round; see page 12 for additional details or visit ThreeRiversParks.org for the complete schedule.



fishing

Shore fishing is accessible on Spring Lake from the park. Use the parking lot on the south side of County Road 12 to access the lake.



self-guided tours

Connect with stories of the site through interpretive brochures, cell phone stops and signs. Self-guided tour experiences are free of charge and available during regular operating hours.

hiking and fishing

A 1.1-mile, unpaved hiking trail offers scenic views of the river and some of the best bird watching in the Twin Cities. The river banks also provide great fishing opportunities.

Dial-a-Ride to a Park, now available evenings and weekends – SmartLinkTransit.com • 952-496-8341



Midsummer Festival

Saturday, July 21, 2018

Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, 25875 Juniper Avenue, New Prague

Credit River Antique Tractor Club Show

- Parade 1 PM
- Crafts, Blacksmithing, Rope Making
- Flea Market
- Food Concessions

10 AM–5 PM

- Canoe, Kayak, Stand-up Paddle Board, and Archery Demos
- Rock Climbing
- Inflatable Bouncers
- In conjunction with the Credit River Antique Tractor Show

Fun for All • Free Event

Co-sponsored by:



in partnership with



ThreeRiversParks.org • 763.694.7777



golf in the parks

4-FOR-3 GOLF SPECIAL

Bring a foursome, mention this special, and one golfer is free!

- Golf \$45/foursome (reg. \$60)
- FootGolf \$30/foursome (reg. \$40)

Valid Monday–Friday through June 29. Tax not included.

GET YOUR BUSINESS ON COURSE

Affordable team and client development in a casual atmosphere.

- Golf or FootGolf tee times
- Group practice
- 9-hole tournaments
- Rental equipment
- Meeting space

Cleary Lake Golf Course, Prior Lake
763.694.7777



Wild West Weekend at The Landing
Don't miss the excitement!
details on page 12

event calendar

CEDAR LAKE FARM REGIONAL PARK NEW PRAGUE

PADDLING CLUB – SOUTH SERIES

Learn new skills, refine your paddling technique, and get a workout while enjoying the company of others at a different park each week. Some paddling experience recommended. Paddle sports alternate between kayak, canoe, and stand-up paddleboard. Locations alternate weekly; visit ThreeRiversParks.org/programs for a full schedule. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$130/10 sessions. Ages: 16+.
June 19–August 21 #3SCT5715-01
Tuesdays, 7–8:30 PM

FAMILY KAYAKING

Create memories of fun on the water. Learn kayaking safety and proper paddling techniques. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$20. Ages: 8+.
June 23 #3SCT5745-01
August 18 #3SCT5745-02
Saturdays, 9–11 AM

STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP) LESSON

Try the fast-growing sport of stand-up paddleboarding, an exciting way to explore the water that offers a full body workout. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$35. Ages: 14+.
June 23 — Saturday #3SCT5760-01
1–3 PM
July 28 — Saturday #3SCT5760-02
9–11 AM

LOG ROLLING DEMONSTRATION

Try this exciting sport rooted in the history of the logging era in the Midwest. Dress to get wet. Drop in anytime. Free. Ages: 5+.
July 7 — Saturday #3SCT0050-01
2–4 PM

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

Enjoy a day at the park! Try rock climbing, log rolling, kayaking, canoeing, ziplining, stand-up paddleboarding, and archery. Burn some energy in inflatable bouncers. Food concessions available. In conjunction with the Credit River Antique Tractor Show (July 20–22; visit crtractor.com for more information). Free. Ages: All.
July 21 — Saturday #3SCT000T
10 AM–5 PM

NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Three Rivers launched a new registration system on April 3, 2017.
• Visit ThreeRiversParks.org/programs
• To create a new account: Click “Need an account?” and complete the requested information.
• If your account already exists and you don’t know the password: Click “Forgot your password?” to receive an email to update your password.

Note: Be sure to include birthdays for everyone you are registering.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

763.559.6700
Mon. – Fri. 8 AM–4:30 PM
ThreeRiversParks.org/programs

Scholarship Information

Applications are considered on the basis of financial need and funds available. Call for details.

Refunds

Check your receipt for applicable refund policies. Programs will take place rain or shine. If a program is canceled by park staff, you will be notified and refunded accordingly.

★ GROUP PROGRAM DISCOUNTS

Groups of four or more individuals can receive a 20% discount on any program with an asterisk (★) in the title. To receive the discount:

- Entire group must pay related fees at the same time.
- If reservations are not required, ask for the discount when you arrive at the program.



EXPLORE VOLUNTEERING

Share your talents, passion and energy to help carry out the mission of Three Rivers Parks. Meet staff while exploring the many ways to give back at your favorite park. Drop in anytime. Free.
July 21 — Saturday #3VOL0300-01
10 AM–5 PM

CLEARY LAKE REGIONAL PARK PRIOR LAKE

PADDLING CLUB – SOUTH SERIES

See full description under Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park. Locations alternate weekly; visit ThreeRiversParks.org/programs for a full schedule. Reservations required. \$130/10 sessions. Ages: 16+.
June 19–August 21 #3SCT5715-01
Tuesdays, 7–8:30 PM

FLATWATER

KAYAKING ESSENTIALS
Learn safety skills and proper paddling techniques with qualified instructors. Beginners and anyone who has never had formal instruction will benefit from this class. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$50. Ages: 14+.
June 26 — Tuesday #3SCT5740-01
6–9 PM

LOG ROLLING DEMONSTRATION

Try this exciting sport rooted in the history of the logging era in the Midwest. Dress to get wet. Drop in anytime. Free. Ages: 5+.
July 1 — Sunday #3SCT0050-11
2–4 PM

STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP) LESSON

Try the fast-growing sport of stand-up paddleboarding, an exciting way to explore the water that offers a full body workout. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$35. Ages: 14+.
July 7 — Saturday #3SCT5760-11
1–3 PM
August 11 — Saturday #3SCT5760-12
9–11 AM

FAMILY KAYAKING

Create memories of fun on the water. Learn kayaking safety and proper paddling techniques. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$20. Ages: 8+.
July 8 — Sunday #3SCT5745-11
9–11 AM

KIDSPLASH: INTRODUCTION TO STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING (SUP)

Leave the adults at home and learn the basics of balancing and maneuvering on a stand-up paddleboard. Play games to test your new skills. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$20. Ages: 8-13.
July 13 — Friday #3SCT5770-11
9–11 AM

★ CANOE WHEN THE MOON IS FULL

Paddle under the full moon. Listen for wildlife and be entertained with stories. Equipment provided. Reservations required. \$8. Ages: 5+.
July 27 — Friday #3SCT0220-01
8:30–10:30 PM



summer camps and junior golf

Registration is now open

Keep the kids busy all summer with adventures they won't forget.

**Archery – Outdoor Adventure – Wilderness Survival
Hooked on Golf – Little Whippers – Lesson Leagues
Little House – Archaeology – Civil War - more**

Cedar Lake Farm, New Prague • Cleary Lake, Prior Lake
Murphy-Hanrehan, Savage • The Landing, Shakopee
McCull Pond, Savage

Camps vary by location
763.559.6700 • ThreeRiversParks.org

MURPHY-HANREHAN PARK RESERVE

SAVAGE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCOTT COUNTY

PADDLING CLUB – SOUTH SERIES

See full description under Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park. Locations alternate weekly; visit ThreeRiversParks.org/programs for a full schedule. Reservations required. \$130/10 sessions. Ages: 16+.
June 19–August 21 #3SCT5715-01
Tuesdays, 7–8:30 PM

SPRING LAKE REGIONAL PARK PRIOR LAKE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCOTT COUNTY

PADDLING CLUB – SOUTH SERIES

See full description under Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park. Locations alternate weekly; visit ThreeRiversParks.org/programs for a full schedule. Reservations required. \$130/10 sessions. Ages: 16+.
June 19–August 21 #3SCT5715-01
Tuesdays, 7–8:30 PM

THE LANDING MINNESOTA RIVER HERITAGE PARK SHAKOPEE

DAILY LIVING HISTORY

Visit with costumed 19th-century characters. Join hands-on demonstrations, tours and other activities. Enter through the west entrance. Drop-in anytime; last entry at 4 PM. Call 763.694.7784 for daily schedules. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.
May 30–August 31 #3LAN900T
Wednesdays–Saturdays, 10 AM–5 PM*
Sundays, Noon–5 PM**
*Excludes June 16, July 7, August 11
**Excludes June 17, July 8, August 12

WILD WEST WEEKEND

Meet lawmen and gunslingers of the 1800s, hear tall tales of the frontier, and experience reenactments of popular western legends. Watch cowboys and cowgirls crack whips and spin ropes, yodel with a cowboy, and enjoy a stage presentation by the River Valley Theatre Company. Food concessions available. Enter through the west entrance. Drop-in anytime; last entry at 4 PM. Reserve a spot for the Chuck Wagon Dinner after the program Saturday evening. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.
June 16 & 17 #3LAN000T & #3LAN001T
Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM
Sunday, Noon–5 PM

CHUCK WAGON DINNER

Enjoy a cowboy-themed dinner catered by Mr. Pig Stuff BBQ. Enjoy live music by singing cowboy, Lonesome Ron. Includes admission to Wild West Weekend earlier in the day. Reservations required by June 11. \$20 ages 18+; \$11 ages 2-17; children under 2 free. Ages: All.
June 16 — Saturday #3LAN0320-01
6–9 PM

INDEPENDENCE DAY 1889

Celebrate America's birthday. Join a parade, play yard games and churn ice cream. Watch historic baseball and listen to a brass band. Meet raptors from Richardson Nature Center. Food concessions available. Enter through the west entrance. Drop-in anytime; last entry at 4 PM. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.
July 4 — Wednesday #3LAN100T
10 AM–5 PM

DOWN ON THE FARM

Experience life on a Minnesota farm during the late 1800s. Care for animals, make butter, and put up hay. Food concessions available. Enter through the west entrance. Drop-in anytime; last entry at 4 PM. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.
July 7 & 8 #3LAN200T & #3LAN201T
Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM
Sunday, Noon–5 PM

Summer Reading Program

From page 7



Down! Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your and your teammates' skills to escape. You have one hour!

Thursday, July 26 — **Cake Decorating:** Learn to decorate from Mark at Edelweiss Bakery and decorate your own cupcake.

Thursday, Aug. 9 — **Yoga with Fran:** No pressure beginner yoga; wear comfortable clothes and bring your yoga mat if you have one.

Savage events for kids

Weekly events:

Mondays and Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. — **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. — **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore and create different art each week at this pop-in program!

Tuesdays on June 12 and 26, July 10 and 24, Aug. 7; 4-5 p.m. — **Waggin' Tales** (Ages 6-11): Pop-in to read to a certified therapy dog!

More events for kids:

Sundays, June 10 and July 15, 2-3 p.m. — **Create Together** (Ages 5-11 and Their Grownup)

Monday, June 11, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. — Summer Kickoff: **Magical Mia**

Mondays, June 11, July 9, and Aug. 6, 6-6:30 p.m. — **Book Explorers** (Ages 4-6 and Their Grownup)

Tuesday, June 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. — **Father's Day Card Pop-In Make and Take** (All Ages)

Thursdays, June 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **A Morning with the Loons** (MNUFC) — Soccer visits Savage!

Thursday, June 14, July 12, and August 9, 6-6:45 p.m. — ***Book Club** (Ages 7-9)

Tuesday, June 19, 6-7 p.m. — **Cookie Club** (Book Club for Ages 9-11)

Thursday, June 21, 10:30 a.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!

June 21, 6-7 p.m. and August 6 and 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)

Thursday, June 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party** (Ages 2-6)

Friday, June 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8): *Sponsored and presented by the Scott County Library TAB.*

Monday, July 9, 6-7 p.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)

Thursday, July 12, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott

County Historical Society (Ages 9-12): Discovery what being an archaeologist is all about.

Monday, July 16, 2-3 p.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 5-11)

Wednesday, July 18, 4-7 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Sand Painting with Shakun** (All Ages)

Thursday, July 19, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Block Printing with Shakun** (Ages 9-11)

Thursdays, July 19 and August 16, 6:30-7 p.m. — **Pajama Storytime**

Thursday, July 26, 1:30-2:30 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)

Monday, July 30, 2-2:45 p.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna

is back with science and engineering tricks.

Tuesday, July 31, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)

Tuesday, July 31, 1-2 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)

Savage events for tweens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, July 5 — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internet!

Thursday, July 26 — **Super Smash Bros Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!

Monday, Aug. 6, 1:30-2:30 p.m. -- **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

Savage events for teens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, June 14 — **Pie Club:** Enjoy pie and the library's best and newest teen books!

Wednesday, June 20, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **ACT Test Prep** (for grades 9 and up)

Thursday, June 21 — **Tai Chi for Teens:** Learn a few basic moves to start your exploration into this ancient art; wear comfortable clothing.

Thursday, June 28 — **Feed Me More:** New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Thursday, July 12 — **Bored? Games!** We'll have some of the following games for you to try: Codenames, Gloom, Fluxx, Exploding Kittens, Farkle, solitaire, and more.

Thursday, July 19 -- **Batik Workshop:** Use hot wax, dyes, and cloth to create your own unique batik piece in the tradition of India with Spotlight artist Shakun Maheshwari.

Thursday, Aug. 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down:** Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your teammates' skills to escape. You have one hour!

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Art in the Library

Shakopee events for kids

Weekly events:

Mondays, 1:30-2 p.m. — **Listen and Doodle** (Ages 6-11): Doodle while you listen to a read-aloud chapter book!

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. — **Spotlight Storytime** (All ages): Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m. — **Arty Smarty** (Ages 6-11): Explore science concepts at this pop-in program with a different take-home project each week!

Thursdays, June 28; July 12; July 26; Aug. 2; and Aug. 23, 10:30-11:15 a.m. — **Yoga Storytime** (All Ages): Enjoy fun stories with playful and easy movements and poses.

More events for kids:

Thursday, June 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **Baby Play Pop-In Party** (Ages 0-18 months)

Thursday, June 7, 1-2 p.m. — **Superhero Olympics Pop-in Party** (Ages 6-11)

Thursdays, June 7, July 5, and Aug. 2, 6:30 p.m. — **Pajama Storytime**

Tuesday, June 12, 6:30 p.m. — Summer Kickoff: **RAD Zoo**

Thursday, June 14, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)

Thursday, June 14, 1-2 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)

Tuesday, June 19, 4-5 p.m. — **Minecraft Party** (Ages 6-11)

Thursday, June 21, 2-3 p.m. — ***Archaeology Mini-Camp** with Scott County Historical Society (Ages 9-12): Discovery what being an archaeologist is all about.

Thursdays, June 21, July 19, and Aug. 16, 6-7:30 p.m. — **Waggin' Tales**

Saturdays, June 23 and July 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **First Step STEM Pop-In Event for Preschoolers** (Ages 3-6)

Friday, June 29, 2-3 P.M. — **Ruh Roh! Scooby Doo Pop-In Mystery Party** (Ages 5-8)

Tuesday, July 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — **4-H Call of the Wild Pop-In Event** (Ages 6-11)

Thursday, July 12, 2-3:30 p.m. — ***Artist Spotlight: Concertina Book with Mary Jo** (Ages 9-11)

Saturday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **Artist Spotlight: Pop-In Printing Press with Mary Jo** (All Ages)

Monday, July 16, 2 p.m. — **Mixed Nuts Comedy Show:** Funded by Shakopee FOL

Wednesday, July 18, 6:30-7:15 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)

Monday, July 23, 10:30-11:15 a.m. — **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (Ages 6-11): Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

Thursday, July 26, 4-5 p.m. — **Elephant and Piggie and Pigeon Pop-In Party** (Ages 2-8)

Monday, July 30, 10:30-11:30 a.m. —

Library Explorers Play Lab Pop-in Party (Ages 2-6)

Thursday, Aug. 2, 10:30 a.m. — **Make a Treasure Map** with the Scott County Historical Society (Ages 6-11): Learn about map making then create your own!

Shakopee events for tweens (tween/teen events are on Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.

Tuesday, June 19 — **Super Smash Bros Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!

Saturday, June 23, 1-2 p.m. -- **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

Tuesday, Aug. 7 — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internet!

Shakopee events for teens (tween/teen events are on Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Tuesday, June 12 — **Decoupage Initials:** Decorate the first letter of your name with Instagram pics, Facebook pics, or whatever book art you like!

Tuesday, June 26 — **Improv 101:** Join members of the Shakopee High School Improv Group for fun and games.

Saturday, June 30, 12-1 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down:** Trapped in the mysterious Upsidedown you must leverage you and your teammates' skills to escape. You have ONE HOUR!

Tuesday, July 3 — **Cupcake Wars:** Decorate your cupcake using the book titles we will choose as inspiration. Cupcakes will be judged -- and then eaten!

Tuesday, July 10 — **Koolaid Henna Tattoos:** Bring your own design or use one we will provide as a guide.

Tuesday, July 17, 2-3:30 p.m. — **Journal/Scrapbook Workshop:** Make an amazing book to use as a journal or scrapbook with Spotlight artist Mary Jo Pauly.

Friday, July 20, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **ACT Test Prep** (for grades 9 and up)

Tuesday, July 24 — **Feed Me More:** New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Tuesday, July 31 — **Teen Yoga with Fran:** No pressure beginner yoga; wear comfortable clothes and bring your yoga mat if you have one.



is back with science and engineering tricks.

Tuesday, July 31, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. — ***Let's Code with Luna!** (Ages 6-8)

Tuesday, July 31, 1-2 p.m. — ***Coding Mini-Camp with Luna** (Ages 9-11)

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2-2:45 p.m. — ***Escape from Pompeii** (Ages 9-11)

Savage events for tweens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 10-14. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, July 5 — **Make a Mega Poster:** You too can learn the ancient art of creating a mega poster to decorate your space using scissors, tape, and the Internet!

Thursday, July 26 — **Super Smash Bros Tournament:** Battle other tweens and teens in our free single-player tournament held on our big screen and more gaming fun!

Monday, Aug. 6, 1:30-2:30 p.m. -- **Girls Code with Luna:** Whether you are a beginner or experienced coder, join Luna for a fun hour to learn the basics of HTML coding, then brainstorm and collaborate on a website design challenge!

Savage events for teens (tween/teen events are on Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m., unless otherwise noted). Best for ages 12-18. Register to guarantee your spot.

Thursday, June 14 — **Pie Club:** Enjoy pie and the library's best and newest teen books!

Wednesday, June 20, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — **ACT Test Prep** (for grades 9 and up)

Thursday, June 21 — **Tai Chi for Teens:** Learn a few basic moves to start your exploration into this ancient art; wear comfortable clothing.

Thursday, June 28 — **Feed Me More:** New culinary techniques and recipes are available for you to learn (and still sample!) in this simple summer food class.

Thursday, July 12 — **Bored? Games!** We'll have some of the following games for you to try: Codenames, Gloom, Fluxx, Exploding Kittens, Farkle, solitaire, and more.

Thursday, July 19 -- **Batik Workshop:** Use hot wax, dyes, and cloth to create your own unique batik piece in the tradition of India with Spotlight artist Shakun Maheshwari.

Thursday, Aug. 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — **Escape the Upside Down:** Trapped in the mysterious Upside Down, you must leverage your teammates' skills to escape. You have one hour!

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Art in the Library



Magical Mia will kick off the Summer Reading Program at the Savage Library with a performance on Monday, June 11 at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

4-H Spotlight

Braun serves as leader, mentor

The best part of being a 4-H program coordinator is being with students from kindergarten until they graduate from high school. Some lucky program coordinators get to know youth at an even younger age as they tag along with their older siblings to events. Maria Braun is one of these students.

Maria is a 9th grader at Prior Lake High School and is being spotlighted this month for all that she gives to the 4-H program. She is an outstanding leader and mentor to younger members. When 4-H needs help leading a program, teaching a *Youth Teach-*



Maria Braun

ing Youth program, or taking notes during a Leader Council Meeting, Maria will volunteer. Maria shines as a positive role model to those around her with her cheerful smile and abundant energy. Thank you, Maria, for all that you give to the 4-H program!

Legal SCENE

By Ron Hocevar
Scott County Attorney



Revenge pornography

In past articles and in talks I have given throughout the community, I've focused a lot on child pornography, teen sexting, and human trafficking. The focus and goal has obviously been on keeping our children safe from exploitation and safe from the unintended consequences of what they may (erroneously) deem as "safe sexting." The issues presented are not exclusive to our children however. The same avenues of exploitation and unintended consequences of "safe sexting" by adults are very real.

Revenge porn -- or "sextortion" -- is the distribution of sexually explicit images or videos, without the consent of the person depicted on the images. The images can be and have been used to blackmail individuals into performing sex acts, continue a relationship, or just harm a person's reputation. One example of sextortion is that of a Georgia man who pretended to be an 11-year-old boy who established a relationship with a 12-year-old girl, and convinced her to send a sexual image of herself to him. The man eventually gained access to her social media accounts, locked her out, and coerced her into providing additional sexually explicit images. Typically, these victims are afraid to tell parents or friends and believe going along with the demands being made is the only option. This man was sentenced to 10 years in prison: <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/georgia-man-sentenced-in-sextortion-case>.

Revenge porn is also at times referred to as "nonconsensual pornography" (NCP): the distribution of sexually graphic images of individuals without their consent. This is because many perpetrators are not motivated by revenge or personal feelings toward the victim. The perpetrator merely seeks to share the images or videos they possess. The images that were provided willingly to a partner or former significant other are now being viewed by strangers for their own entertainment. These images can be loaded to websites where anyone with access to the internet can view and share with other websites. These images can also be emailed or exhibited to the victim's family, employers, co-workers, and friends: Cybercivilrights.org.

My office is currently reviewing an adult case where a young lady named Yasmin had her phone stolen by her boyfriend. The phone contained naked images and sexually explicit videos of her. Yasmin kicked the boyfriend out of the home when she discovered he was taking naked images and videos of her without her consent. After stealing the phone, he threatened to release the naked images and videos of her, which he did by setting up a fake Facebook page and posting them. The male continued to taunt her and attempt to add her as a friend on Facebook; he also told her if she called the police, he would release more of the images. Additionally, the male's new girlfriend started posting the images and videos on Snapchat and taunting Yasmin by saying things such as "What are you going to do about it?" and "The police aren't going to do anything." Yasmin faced serious backlash from the publication of these images from family members as well as strangers, and thought about suicide. A good article was written about this in the *Star Tribune* by Mila Koumpilova: <http://www.startribune.com/in-twin-cities-somali-community-a-push-against-online-shaming/481194051/>.

The actions of these two adults not only deeply affected Yasmin, but they are potentially looking at being charged pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 617.261, for non-consensual dissemination of this explicit material. It is a crime to intentionally disseminate an image of another person who is depicted in a sexual act or whose intimate parts are exposed, in whole or in part. To be charged under this statute, 1) the victim must be identifiable; 2) the actor (suspect) must know or reasonably should know that the victim does not consent to the image being disseminated; and 3) the image was obtained or created under circumstances in which the actor knew or reasonably should have known the person depicted had a reasonable expectation of privacy. If convicted, the individual could face at the very least a gross misdemeanor conviction. Among the factors that could elevate the offense to a felony conviction are if the dissemination is done with intent to harass, to profit from, or the image is posted on a website.

As I stated above, the issues with sexting and sharing sexual images and videos are not exclusively a juvenile problem. Everyone needs to know that once that send button is pressed on your phone, tablet, personal computer, laptop, or other device, **you have now lost any and all control over who may see what you sent.** Not everything in our lives has to be recorded and/or shared. In this day of social media and the instant access to almost everything via the internet, people have lost their sense of privacy. We have to get it back.

Election cycle

From page 1

to look up your voter record, or you may swipe your state-issued license or ID for super speedy retrieval. Scott County will be holding an open house on July 26 for the public to be able to check out the new poll pads.

All Minnesota voters will have these races on their ballot in 2018: two U.S. Senators, U.S. Representative, Governor and Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, Attorney General, and State Representative. Scott County has quite a few races, including County Sheriff, County Attorney, two County Commissioner seats, and many local city, township, and school district races.

If you are unsure where you vote, visit: <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>.

Absentee voting begins June 29 for the primary and runs through Aug. 13;

for the general election, those dates are Sept. 21 – Nov. 5. You can vote any time during that period and *do not need* a reason why. You can request a ballot by completing an Application for Absentee Voting online, by mail, by e-mail or fax, or in person. The absentee location for all of Scott County is the Scott County Government Center – please visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-in-person/> for more details.

If you have questions about these or other election-related matters, call (952) 496-8149 or, even better, send an email to sselections@co.scott.mn.us. Also, check out the Secretary of State's website for additional information about elections, voting, and much more: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/>.

Law Library News

Free legal help available through many resources

We hope you stop in to see us -- we're remodeling to better serve you! The Law Library is going electronic with the series collection. The cost of print legal resources has gone through the roof in the last five years, so we've decided the print reference collection (of which all is available online) will be removed to give space for more tables and chairs. We plan to offer an additional three tables and more chairs so there will be more room to fill out court forms. We're keeping all of the self-help books, like *The Landlord's Legal Guide*, *101 Law Firms for Personal Use*, *The Probate Process from Start to Finish*, *Make Your Own Will*, and much more. These books are available for three-week check-outs and can be returned to the Law Library or your local library.

The Law Library has free Wi-Fi and access to online legal resources, and we also have a Minnesota Judicial Branch Self-Help Kiosk located in the Law Library. The kiosk offers access to most common court forms such as divorce, custody, child support; small claims court (conciliation court); and landlord/tenant. The kiosk has a direct phone line to the self-help attorneys. **The attorneys cannot offer legal advice, but can answer any questions about the court forms.** The Law Library also offers "Court House View" access to the State Court files which contain criminal,

civil, and judgment records. We recommend checking backgrounds before renting to someone or doing business with any contractor. The remote view (view that you can access from home) does not offer the same information that the Court House View offers. The remote view does not offer addresses or links to actual files that the Court House view does.

The Law Library also hosts a Walk-In Victim's Clinic every Monday morning, 9-11 a.m. Crime victims can meet with a Southern Minnesota Regional Services (SMRLS) attorney and ask questions about legal issues related to their victimization, and this help would include orders for protection and harassment orders.

The Law Library also hosts a Family Law Clinic the second Monday of every month from 4-6 p.m. This clinic is offered by volunteer attorneys. This clinic may be for you if you are representing yourself in Family Court and just have a few simple questions on an uncomplicated case. Appointments are 30 minutes, and do require pre-registration. You can call the Law Library at (952) 496-8713 to register.

Check with the Law Library to see what other free clinics are being offered. We hope you stop by to see the changes or if you need some help with a legal matter.

Apply for 2018 FAST-TRACK Business Challenge

Do you own a recently incorporated business in Scott County, or do you have a product or idea you would like to launch to form a business? If so, the Scott County *FAST-TRACK* Challenge is for you! This business competition provides you with the resources to develop or fine tune your business plan, develop a pitch for your business, and potentially be selected as a finalist to compete for mentorship, cash, and professional services to help your business succeed!

The *FAST-TRACK* Challenge is *free* to enter and there is no minimum age requirement. In order to be eligible, individuals must reside within Scott County, have a business which was incorporated in Scott County within the past three years, *or* be willing to locate their business in Scott County; have a viable product or service idea; and be willing to participate in the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge live event.

Categories for the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge include: Energy/Clean Tech/Water/Utilities/Environment; Food/Ag/Beverage; General/Other; High Tech; Life Science/Health Tech/Aging; Personal Care Solutions; Professional Services; and Industrial Workplace. Business ideas will be evaluated on the product concept and potential viability, potential to create jobs with livable wages, and creation of a product that addresses the identified focus areas, among other criteria.

Applications will be accepted now through Aug. 31 and may be obtained on the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge website at: www.scottfss.org/FAST-TRACK.

Evaluation of applications will occur the beginning of Sep-

tember, with finalists being announced mid-September. Practice pitches with the Technology Village Board and *Open to Business* will take place the end of September and early October, with the 2018 *FAST-TRACK* Challenge Competition to be held on Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018.

Entrepreneurs are encouraged to participate in the Scott County *FAST-TRACK* Challenge! This event received the Economic Development Association of Minnesota's 2017 Program of the Year.

For more information on the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge, including links to the 2018 *FAST-TRACK* Business Challenge videos (3 1/2 minute promo video, 10 minute highlight video, or the full 2017 production), visit www.scottfss.org/FAST-TRACK or contact Jo Foust, Business Development Specialist with Scott County First Stop Shop, at (952) 496-8830 or jfoust@scottfss.org.



Is buying property the right move for your business?

Open to Business can help!

Our free, confidential advisors can assist you in evaluating a purchase price, comparing ownership vs. leasing costs, and connecting you to financing resources. Open to Business can also often provide gap financing to keep equity requirements manageable. Whether you are negotiating a purchase, refinancing a contract for deed, or just exploring your options, Open to Business can help.

For more information: www.opentobusinessmn.org
OR call the Scott County office at 612-843-3278

County selected for U of M's Resilient Communities Project

The University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP) announced last month that Ramsey County and Scott County have been selected as its community partners for the 2018–2019 academic year. Due to both finalists' strong proposals, it marks the first time in its six-year history the program will assist two partners in a given year.

"We are very excited to partner with the University of Minnesota to undertake research that will help advance our long-range 2040 comprehensive plan," said Scott County Planning Manager Brad Davis. "The timing is perfect. Looking at all of the community feedback and input gathered over the past two years as part of the 2040 planning process, we have identified some important research and analysis topics to move forward, and now we can match those research needs with University students, faculty, and coursework. This is a unique opportunity to move right from plan creation into plan implementation with all of the great University resources at our side ready to assist."

RCP, housed within the U of M's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, seeks to connect students' innovation, ingenuity, and fresh perspectives with local government agencies to learn about their needs, conduct research, and develop solutions. In the coming months, staff will define the scope and purpose of individual projects before matching them with courses offered at the University.

"We're very excited about our upcoming collaborations with Scott and Ramsey Counties," said RCP's Director Mike Greco. "Each community brings

to the table a unique set of issues and projects. Working with staff, residents, and other partners in these communities will provide U of M students with incredible experiential learning opportunities, while increasing each county's capacity to remain resilient in the face of rapid economic, social, and environmental changes."

Scott County's proposal identified 14 potential projects, including investigating self-serve libraries, planting edible landscapes, diversifying agricultural production, managing hazardous waste, improving early childhood education, fostering employer-assisted housing, increasing participation in rental-assistance programs, planning for autonomous vehicles, promoting active living, and investigating the cost of services in rural areas.

"This partnership will allow us to examine policy, project, and program initiatives identified by our community in a well-defined and collaborative way," said Scott County Board Chair Tom Wolf. Beginning in September, the University and counties will collaborate on more than a dozen multidisciplinary projects to advance resilience and sustainability.

Once paired, counties can enhance their capacity to address complex issues by gaining access to thousands of hours of research from hundreds of students and faculty in a wide range of programs and disciplines—from architecture, planning and engineering, to business, environmental sciences and the humanities. Students will present their findings and recommendations at the conclusion of the semester.

Be on alert for scams as new Medicare cards arrive

New Medicare cards are coming soon, and here's what you need to know about your new card, -- and how to avoid related scams.

In April 2018, Medicare began mailing new cards to everyone who gets Medicare benefits. Why? To help protect your identity, Medicare is removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards. Instead, the new cards will have a unique Medicare number. This will happen automatically; you don't need to do anything or pay anyone to get your new card.

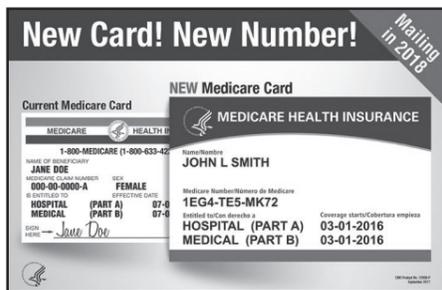
Medicare will mail your card, at no cost, to the address you have on file with the Social Security Administration. If you need to update your official mailing address, visit the Social Security website at <https://www.ssa.gov> or call 1-800-772-1213. When you get your new card, your Medicare coverage and benefits will stay the same.

If your sister who lives in another state gets her card before you, don't worry. The cards will be mailed in waves to various parts of the country from April 2018 until April 2019. So, your card may arrive at a different time than hers.

When you get your new card, be sure to destroy your old card, and **don't just toss it in the trash. Shred it.** If you have a separate Medicare Advantage card, keep that because you'll still need it for treatment.

As the new Medicare cards start being mailed, be on the lookout for Medicare scams. Here are some tips:

- **Don't pay for your new card.** It's yours for free. If anyone calls and says you need to pay for it, it's a scam.
- **Don't give personal information to get your card.** If someone calls



New Medicare cards will no longer include Social Security numbers.

claiming to be from Medicare, asking for your Social Security number or bank information, it's a scam. Hang up. Medicare will never ask you to give personal information to get your new number and card.

- **Guard your card.** When you get your new card, safeguard it like you would any other health insurance or credit card. While removing the Social Security number cuts down on many types of identity theft, you'll still want to protect your new card because identity thieves could use it to get medical services.

For more information about changes to your Medicare card, go to go.medicare.gov/newcard. And if you're a victim of a scam, **report it to the FTC.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Faith Thompson, U of MN Extension Financial Capability Educator, at (952) 492-5383 or shawnaft@umn.edu.

Source: Lisa Weintraub Schifferle; Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer and Business Education; Mar. 6, 2018

Safety SCENE

By Luke Hennen
Scott County Sheriff



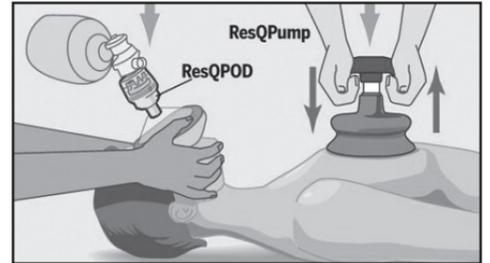
Donations help provide training, technology, equipment, services

As modern policing continues to become more complex, I recognize the Sheriff's Office's increasing needs in training, technology, equipment, and specialized services are often beyond the scope of the County budget. Private donations have become indispensable, helping us to acquire the ever-more sophisticated tools needed to respond to incidents and emergency situations more effectively.

To supplement funding and strengthen relationships with the community, the Sheriff's Office gratefully accepts community-based funding from private donors, including individuals, small businesses, and corporations, who support our mission through volunteerism, cash donations, and in-kind services and products. These community partnerships allow the Sheriff's Office access to innovative technology and services that further our ability to serve Scott County's public safety and community needs, while minimizing the burden on taxpayers.

Recently, the Sheriff's Office received two important donations that have allowed us to provide superior service to citizens of Scott County: The donation of **ResQCPR Systems** and the purchase and training of our **new K-9 Deputy.**

Early last year, the Sheriff's Office was chosen by Allina Health Emergency Medical Services to be the recipient of 17 CPR devices called ResQ CPR Systems (an approximate \$22,000 value). The devices and related training to use them was funded by the Saints Foundation, the fundraising organization for St. Francis Regional Medical Center and St. Gertrude's Health and Rehabilitation Center. The ResQCPR System is the only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) device



Seventeen ResQCPR Systems and training to use them was donated to the Sheriff's Department last year.

system approved by the FDA to improve the likelihood of survival in adults who have experienced non-traumatic sudden cardiac arrest. These devices are in our squad cars and have already been utilized successfully in three different instances in Scott County involving cardiac arrest.

In February of this year, the Sheriff's Office received a \$17,000 donation from R&D Batteries in Burnsville to fund the purchase and training expenses of a new K-9 Deputy, a two-year-old purebred Belgian Malinois named Floyd. This generous donation has relieved budgeting challenges that our office would normally face for the purchase of a specialized service. Deputy Floyd is currently undergoing 12 weeks of specialized obedience training and is scheduled to graduate at the end of May. He replaces K-9 Deputy Bojar who retired earlier this year.



Deputy Nate Olson with new K-9 Deputy Floyd

Through collaboration with our community partners, I strive to provide the highest level of service to all who visit, live, and work in Scott County. I am extremely grateful for the generosity of our community. Gracious acts like these from local businesses, organizations, and individuals show law enforcement they have the community's trust, and help provide our deputies with the tools they need to succeed.

Play Ball
Sports in Scott County

Exhibit Opens
9-27-2018

SCOTT COUNTY
history.org
at the Stans Museum

952-445-0378



Sixth grader Sanya Pirani celebrated with volunteers and partners following a successful food drive for the CAP Agency in April.

Sanya's Hope collects CAP Food Shelf donations

Prior Lake area 6th grader Sanya Pirani celebrated her successful food drive with a community event on April 29. Over the month of April, Sanya and her group of volunteers and partners had been collecting food and donations for Community Action Partnership's local food shelf. This food drive culminated with an event at Nutmeg Brewhouse attended by community members, CAP Board members, and elected officials.

Sanya's food drive was organized through "Sanya's Hope for Children," a 501c3 nonprofit founded by Sanya (who also serves as the CEO). Sanya is also the youth ambassador for Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership (CAP Agency) and frequently partners with the organization to raise funds and donations for those in need in our communities.

Thanks to the many donors and tireless volunteers, Sanya's Hope for Children was able to collect 1,561 pounds of food and \$1,061 for the CAP Agency Food Shelf. Each year, the food shelf serves over 6,000 individuals and families in need of emergency food assistance. Last year, 716,687 pounds of food were distributed!

The end of drive celebration event featured young entertainers from Hidden Oaks Middle School and had attendees including Senator Eric Pratt. Sen. Pratt voiced great enthusiasm for the project and for the work being done by Sanya's Hope for Children and the CAP Agency to improve the lives of

those in need in our area.

About CAP Agency

Community Action Partnership (CAP) is a local, private, nonprofit serving families and individuals in need in Scott, Carver, and Dakota Counties. CAP assists and empowers people to achieve social and economic well-being in partnership with our community. Our dedicated staff, partners, and volunteers work in more than twenty programs and services to meet the needs of our clients and provide them with comprehensive resources. Our programs include food shelves, Crisis Nursery, Head Start, Meals on Wheels, WIC, and Emergency Services and housing. By using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to support and empower low income individuals, we envision a strong community with healthy individuals and families, quality education, safe and stable housing and work that dignifies.

About Sanya's Hope for Children

Sanya's Hope for Children (SHFC) was founded in January 2017, and supports local and global impoverished children. With half of the world's population under age 25, SHFC's mission is to help young people with the basic necessities of life, fund educational endeavors, find their voice, take action, and make an impact on vital community issues. More information can be found at <https://www.sanyashopeforchildren.org/>.

Summer at SCHS: Exhibits, crafts, programs

Wish You Were Here: Tourism in Scott County -- Scott County has been a vacation destination for over a century! This exhibit explores the many tourist spots that have attracted visitors over the years, including the resorts at Prior Lake, Mudbaden Sulfur Springs, the Renaissance Festival, Canterbury park, Mystic Lake, Valleyfair, Elko Speedway, and more! See amazing photos and artifacts and share your favorite memories of these fun places! Exhibit open until August 2018.



Sign up for bicycle tours.

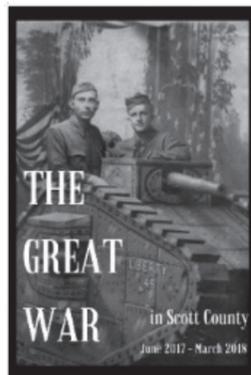
until 12 noon and cost only \$5.

X Marks the Spot! Crafting at the Libraries -- Drop into libraries around Scott County for summer crafts with the Scott County Historical Society! In this program, you will learn about map making and create your own "treasure" map to take home! Funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Amendment. *Free*. Best for ages 6-11. See the library's summer reading program schedule in this issue of the *SCENE* for dates and times.

Archaeology Mini-Camps at the Libraries -- Have you ever wanted to be an archaeologist like Indiana Jones? You'll learn how to read a map and create your own, "discover" and reconstruct an artifact, and create your own research journal for recording all your notes and clues to take home. Best for ages 9-12. Funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Amendment. *Free*. Register online at <http://www.scottlib.org/> or by calling your local library. See the library's summer reading program schedule in this issue of the *SCENE* for dates and times.

Research and Genealogy Open House at SCHS -- An introduction to the resources that are available at the Scott County Historical Society that can help you research your family tree or discover Scott County's history! You will learn how to use our microfilm and how to access our surname and artifact databases. Saturday, June 30. *Free*.

The Great War in Scott County



-- This exhibit marks America's entry into World War I. Explore the war's impact on Scott County through the stories of those who served abroad and those

who aided the effort from home. Exhibit open through August 2018.

All Things Minnesota Book Club: Third Thursday of each month, 3-5 p.m. The All Things Minnesota Book Club meets monthly at SCHS. New members always welcome! *Free* (SCHS requests that book club members become Historical Society members).

Scott County Crazy Quilters: Fourth Thursday of each month, 6-8 p.m. Join in the hand-crafted fun! All levels of skill welcome. *Free* (SCHS requests that Quilter members become Historical Society members).

Pedaling the Past: Scott County Bike Tours -- Join us for a series of bike tours highlighting the environmental histories of towns in Scott County! We will be visiting Jordan on July 7 and New Prague on Oct. 13. Tours are from 10 a.m.

CAP Agency to offer fresh produce, school supplies

By Joseph Vaughan, CAP Agency CEO/President

With summer's arrival, CAP Agency has once again sprung into action to meet the increased food needs of families. With school out, families' budgets are stretched even further to provide meals to their children – so this summer, CAP Agency is again offering **Fresh Produce Distributions!** From July through October, CAP's food shelf will be providing food distributions on select Saturday mornings (July 21; Aug 4, 18; Sept 15, 29; Oct 6.) These distributions are available to all CAP Food Shelf clients and will include an increased amount of fresh produce from CAP's Backstretch Community Garden. Donations of fresh produce are always welcome at our food shelf, so feel free to bring in any extras from home gardens as well! If you would like more information on renting a plot with the Backstretch Community Garden, contact Meghan at mrademacher@capagency.org.

Head Start enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is underway! Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from income-eligible families. Head Start is designed to work with the whole family and encourages parents as their child's first and most important teacher. Head Start serves families with children age three to five. In addition to providing a free, quality preschool experience, the

program offers health, nutrition, and social services. You can download an enrollment application at www.capagency.org or stop in at either of our offices. The Shakopee office is located at 712 Canterbury Rd S, Shakopee. The Rosemount office is located at 2496 145th St W, Rosemount.

I'm excited to announce that CAP's school supply program, **Project Student Success**, is off to a great start! Schools, businesses, and community organizations are coming together to provide supplies for local students to start their school year off right. The goal is to ensure that every student in Scott and Carver Counties has the materials they need to successfully begin the new school year. CAP Agency relies on the dedicated efforts of our staff, volunteers, and our many partners – individuals, businesses, schools, public agencies, churches, and other nonprofits – to impact the lives of those in need and in crisis in our community. CAP client families began signing up for backpacks and school supplies at the end of May, which will be available for pick up after Aug. 13.

Twelve schools in Scott and Carver Counties are hosting school supply drives and businesses and community organization drives are being organized throughout the summer. To find out more about who is hosting a drive near you, go to www.capagency.org/

community-outreach/school-supplies/.

Community members have options for several ways to get involved:

Host a School Supply Drive

CAP will provide you with flyers and resources to make your drive a success! You choose the dates that work for you (anytime between now and July 30), and CAP staff will pick up anything you collect. To coordinate a drive, contact Jennifer at jbaker@capagency.org or (952) 402-9839.

Donate

By contributing a monetary donation, CAP will be able to purchase the supplies needed by students in our community. Donations can be made online at www.capagency.org/donate or at 712 Canterbury Rd S, Shakopee, MN

Volunteer

CAP will need volunteers to help stuff and distribute backpacks. Volunteer times are available in mid-August for individuals and groups. This is a great way to do community outreach or as a team building activity! For more information on volunteering, contact Jennifer at jbaker@capagency.org or (952) 402-9839

For more information on CAP Agency, check out www.capagency.org.

Historical SCENE

A look through the headlines of summers past

By Rose James
SCHS Program Manager

At the Scott County Historical Society, summer plans are in full swing. We are preparing for fairs and festivals throughout the County, youth archeology programs, and bicycle tours. After the long winter and the final deluge of snow, the summer sun feels like a burst of freedom. This feeling has been shared by many residents of Scott county past. A brief scan through the news shows how life in Scott County has always revolved around the changing seasons.

Minnesotans have always loved to talk about the weather. A poem contributed to the June 4, 1942 issue of the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune* mentions the tendency of Minnesota weather to undergo sudden changes:

*Only yesterday it gleamed
By my efforts and it seemed
Grasses vied with burnished blue
Every blade and petal's hue
Whispered of abundant yield
In a mottled sloping field
Today house-hunting shower sprites
Blotted out alluring sights
Thoughtless hit the rural show
Where great cattle champions low*

A commentator in the July 7, 1897 issue of the *Argus* complained, "Minnesota must have slid down into the torrid zone, where thunderstorms come with even greater regularity than daily bread... Humanity swelters but corn and small grains are growing like weeds, and weeds are growing with tropical luxuriance."

Despite this biting commentary, that year the rain was a relief. A week later, on July 15, 1897, the *Argus* published a weather column. Before mentioning temperature and forecasts, the article opens with these ominous sentences: "The first ten days of July broke all records for violent and sudden death. Most of the deaths were due to excessive heat." The article goes on to outline the number of heat-related deaths throughout the Midwest, ranging from Scott County to Chicago and down to St. Louis. In all, 298 deaths were reported, with Chicago alone accounting for 110. Finally, the *Argus* shares the weather with temperatures ranging from 95-110 degrees. Summer heat plagued Minnesota again a few years later when record setting temperatures of 114 hit the Twin Cities area -- just in time for new recruits at Fort Snelling to be training for World War I.

With this mercurial weather, it is no shock that fans and air conditioners were a big summer hit in Minnesota once they landed on the market. In fact, in 1942, a wartime cartoon titled "Our Democracy by Mat" touted refrigeration as essential to America, because "... There's nothing more American than ice cream." By the 1960s, home cooling advertisements filled Scott County newspapers. Air conditioners were touted as "the new



On July 1, 1897, the *Scott County Argus* published two cartoons: One (at right) showing a lion wrestling with a firecracker observed by a revolutionary soldier, presumably symbolizing America's festive triumph over England; another (above) portrayed a grinning, jaunty cartoon character brandishing a gun, ready to celebrate a "modern" Fourth of July.

thing for household comfort and sanitation," "necessary for a healthy baby," and "The perfect gift for Father's Day, 1966."

While prospective Father's Day presents might have dominated the advertising pages of Scott County newspapers past, Independence Day was the holiday that dominated the headlines. By 1942, a wartime Fourth of July was celebrated in Savage with a "rip roaring" rodeo featuring "a bevy of fiery saddle broncs, a horse catching demonstration, and a musical chair race enacted by a group of soldiers." By the 1960s, the spirit of independence was lauded, not with lions, pistols, and ponies, but with that all-American invention: The car. Automobile advertisements covered the pages and articles were written about road trips to remote getaways. In 1966, the *Shakopee Tribune* symbolized "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" with a speedy convertible flying by Shakopee's iconic St. Mark's Church.

Automobile culture transformed the Minnesota staple of the summer getaway. Back to the earliest issues of the *Scott County Argus*, trip announcements were mixed in the personal notices among obituaries, births, and marriages. Most of these trip notices were simple, such as "Mr. and Mrs. So-and-So will be traveling to Hutchinson this weekend to visit family." By the 1930s, the culture of the summer road trip was in full force. On July 6, 1933, the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune* published a full-page road map of Minnesota for the "benefit of summer travelers and vacationists." They also admonished in large bold letters that motorists "Drive Carefully." This was apparently an epidemic problem, as on June 30, the highway patrol warned that "death takes no holiday" and asked drivers to travel safely during their Independence Day celebrations. A month earlier, Greyhound bus lines took out a quarter page ad recommending that Minnesotans "plan their summer trip now," and promising "cool luxurious coaches with wide vision windows on all sides." For just \$11 dollars, you could get a four-day tour of the Chicago Worlds Fair!

Before automobiles hit the scene, another humble form of transportation filled Scott County's newspapers. Biking has always been an essential summer pastime of Scott County. On October 26, 1893, the *Scott County Argus*



Complaints about poor roads for bicycles were aired in the *Shakopee newspaper* in 1897.

front page boasted an editorial entitled "Riding A Wheel." It begins, "As in everything, a young girl has the best time of it in learning to ride a bicycle." The piece goes on to describe the trials a young woman might endure in mastering a bike, but concludes with "... It is better to depend on oneself than lean on the shifty arm of a man. For arms tire and become sorely weary, but the will of a woman is the truest steel."

A few years later, the July 19, 1897 issue of the *Argus* published a scathing review of the public highway system written by the Farmers Union. It begins with "... not for many years has need for better country roads been felt so much." It continues: "Road repairs may seem expensive under the most favorable of circumstances, but when the cost of cartage and the expense of future repairs are taken into account, the cost of road repairs now would probably be less expensive if choices are economically made." The sentiment would not seem out of place today, except the farmers were not arguing for better roads for motorized vehicles -- instead, they wanted the country to expand highways for bikes.

On June 19, 1900, William Hinds extolled the virtues of a new bike path from the Twin Cities to Shakopee, explaining that "With a good cycle path from the cities to this point, the cities will see from fifty to two hundred riders from the cities here on every pleasant Sunday or Saturday afternoon, and the business of many firms, hotels, refreshment shops, soda water fountains and cycle shops will be largely increased in consequence." He also mentioned that the "... the short run, fifty miles for the

round trip, will serve to make it very popular for those who ride for pure and simple pleasure." Bikes were so popular that on July 7, 1897, it was published in the *Argus* that the State Agricultural Society declared that September 11 would be "Bike Day" in Minnesota.

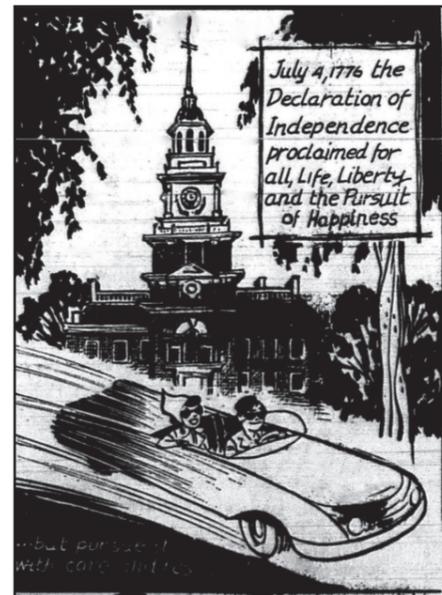
Another summer outdoor sport that Minnesotans have long enjoyed is baseball. Long before the Washington Senators became the Minnesota Twins, the *Argus* reported on another epic pairing of teams: The Fats versus the Leans. The game was promoted thusly in the June 26, 1897 issue:

The Fats will play the Leans sometime in the near future, probably next Friday afternoon, and to say that it will be a howling success from start to finish but feebly expresses the situation. The Fats will average 200 lbs. in weight and propose to put up such a swift game that the Leans will lose what adipose tissue they have while the Fats laugh and grow fatter still.

The *Argus* also reported on the game once the match was settled:

That Fats vs. Leans controversy at Athletic Park last Friday afternoon attracted its full share of attention from the public and there is no doubt that the large crowd of spectators found abundant entertainment in watching the gyrations of the Leans and the Delsartean grace of the Fats... Of course Mr. Farrell can handle butter better than baseballs and H.J. Peek can write law briefs faster than he can run. There were a few surprises in store. Prof. Walter with his gigantic frame held first like a veteran and his batting and baserunning were scientific to a degree... Of course the Fats won and of course the Leans want revenge, and the plan is to strength the teams a little and play a benefit game next week Friday.

Summer is special in Minnesota. The state experiences a rebirth as pale winter hermits venture outside in droves. We can see it here at the Scott County Historical Society as the sun shines on the Stans Garden, and the foot traffic outside our windows increases exponentially. If you are interested in experiencing a summer fun version of history, join us this summer for bike tours of Scott County, visit us at Scott County fairs and festivals, or simply stop by and enjoy lunch in our garden.



In 1966, the *Shakopee Tribune* symbolized "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" with a speedy convertible flying by a church.





SCALA

Scott County Association For Leadership And Efficiency

The Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (a.k.a., SCALA) brings you “news you can use” – updates on road projects, local events, community developments and programs, and other things you might want to know. Watch this page for current and future information from our many SCALA partners!



The Prior Lake robotics team volunteered and donated water barrels as prizes for the clean-up event.

From the Prior Lake/Spring Lake Watershed District: Successful Clean-Up Event

Nearly 65 volunteers enjoyed the beautiful spring weather while cleaning up Crystal Lake Park in Prior Lake April 29. The annual Spring Clean Water Clean-Up was hosted by the City of Prior Lake and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District.

Volunteers pitched in to rake leaves and pull out buckthorn, and afterwards neighbors commented on how improved the park looked. Volunteers included many neighbors, local community members, Cub Scout Pack 339, students from Aspen Academy, and the Lord of the Gears robotics team from Prior Lake High School who showed up to remove buckthorn and clean up leaves and organic debris to protect the water quality in Crystal Lake. Volunteers removed 1.78 tons (3,560 pounds) of buckthorn and other woody debris and raked over 1.23 tons (2,460 pounds) of leaves! Photos from the event are posted at www.facebook.com/PLSLWD/.

Many local businesses provided door prizes, and volunteers were treated to refreshments. Lord of the Gears robotics team also donated five rain barrels which were raffled off to participants. Missed out on the fun? The District and the City will be hosting another clean-up this fall. Stay tuned by checking the Watershed District or City websites or email kkeller-miller@plslwd.org to be added to the email notification list.

Applicants sought for award for water quality improvements

The Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District is once again sponsoring a contest to inspire citizens to value, conserve, and protect our freshwater resources. Projects completed within the last three years are eligible for the Water Quality Improvement Award. Four winners will be awarded \$500 each.

Many types of projects qualify, including raingardens and shoreline restorations (see the award application for more details). The project must be within the boundary of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District. Apply by Oct. 19, 2018.

Need help planning a project? The Scott Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) can help you design your project and hook you up with cost-share funding! Curious what projects won last year? Check out the Water Quality Improvement Award page on the District's website at www.plslwd.org.

From Savage:

2018 Summer Music in the Park

Nothing says summer like an outdoor concert! Savage Recreation presents the Music in the Park series

Wednesday evenings during the summer from 7 - 8 p.m. Performances are for audiences of all ages, and at times feature acts specifically aimed at children. Music in the Park performances are held on the outdoor patio at the McColl Pond Environmental Learning Center in Community Park. Limited seating is available; lawn chairs are encouraged.

June 13, The Riverside Rockets: Early Rock-N-Roll
June 20, The Tuxedo Band: Classic Rock-N-Roll
June 27, The Teddy Bear Band: Kids/Family
July 11, Echoes of Elvis: Elvis hits
July 18, Charlie Maguire: Folk
July 25, Galactic Cowboy Orchestra: Folk/Rock/Blues
Aug. 1, Stomp N Dixie: Dixie Ragtime
Aug. 8, The Toonies Family Fun Show: Kids/Family
Aug. 15, Pan-Handlers Steel Drum Band: Tropical Sounds

Dan Patch Days – June 21-24

Dan Patch Days is all about bringing our community together. It's a full three-day, family-focused event that draws over 15,000 community residents and guests to the Savage Community Park to enjoy food, entertainment, fireworks, kids' activities, and much more! Activities throughout the weekend include a craft beer and wine tasting, 5K race, parade, and pancake breakfast. Buttons are now on sale at the Savage Public Library and City Hall. Advance tickets to the Friday night entertainment can be purchased online at <https://danpatchdays.ticketprice.com/dan-patch-days-2018>.



A statue of Dan Patch and his owner, M.W. Savage, will be unveiled June 24.

On Sunday, June 24, at 1 p.m. there will be an unveiling ceremony at the Savage Public Library of the statute of Dan Patch and M.W. Savage standing together to commemorate the City's namesake and his famous horse, Dan Patch. For a complete schedule of events or information on becoming a volunteer or sponsor, go to danpatchdays.org or call the Savage Chamber of Commerce at (952) 894-8876.

CR 42/TH 13 intersection improvement update

Construction at this major intersection is in full swing. During construction, you will still be able to get to all the businesses along this corridor, however -- do be aware there may be temporary detours and re-routes. We encourage motorists to be alert, follow the posted detour routes, and plan accordingly for delays.

In order to complete this project within its timeline, portions of CR 42 will be temporarily closed for approximately six weeks each. Starting late June/early July and ending in mid-to-late August, CR 42 east of Highway 13 to Quebec Ave. will be closed. Traffic will be detoured around the construction site using CR 27, CR 16, and TH 13. Starting mid- to-late August ending in late September/early October, CR 42 west of TH 13 to Rutgers St. will be closed. Traffic will be detoured using CR 18, CR 16, and TH 13. North and southbound lanes at TH 13/CR 42 will remain open throughout this project. Residents can sign up for construction alerts from Scott County at www.co.scott.mn.us.

For the latest information on road closures, detours, and updates on all construction projects happening in Savage, go to the City website at cityofsavage.com/construction-projects; subscribe to the City ENews at bit.ly/2quHQKK, and follow the City on Facebook and Twitter @cityofsavage Questions or comments can be directed to Engineering at (952) 882-2671 or comments@ci.savage.mn.us.



News you can use...

From Shakopee: Housing options increasing

This spring, the Shakopee City Council approved changes to its Comprehensive Plan and rezoned property to make way for more housing south of Highway 169 and west of Marystown Road. Benedictine Health System is proposing to build a senior housing complex with 277 units, which includes independent living, brownstones, assisted living, and memory care units.

The council also approved a multifamily building north of the proposed senior housing complex. CommonBond Communities is proposing to build a 60-unit multifamily development. Rents are projected to be \$800 to \$1,200 a month.

D.R. Horton is proposing 158 single-family residential lots as part of the Windermere South development west of Marystown Road and north of CH 78. The housing types will include single-family homes along with a villa-style detached townhome.

Lastly, the council approved rezoning approximately 40 acres owned by Friendship Church to single-family residential. The church was recently annexed into the city with no zoning. The church is exploring possible future development of some of its land.

More information about the city's development projects is available online at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/currentdevelopment.

Free entertainment offered

Music and family entertainment return to the riverfront this summer at Shakopee's annual Huber Park Performance & Events Series. Sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Department, the series features free family fun Thursdays and select Saturdays through August. Entertainment includes concerts, comedy shows, magicians, movies in the park, and more. All events take place at Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N. Find the schedule at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/calendar.

SandVenture Aquatic Park opens

Get ready to dive into Shakopee's unique sand-bottomed pool when SandVenture Aquatic Park opens Monday, June 4. Learn more at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/sandventure.

Big Fun Day planned

Kick off summer in a *b-i-g* way with fun activities from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 16 at Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N. This *free* event includes splash pad, giant slip-n-slide, water relays and games, food carts, balloon art, and bounce houses. Stay after for a Movie in the Park at sunset. For more information, visit www.ShakopeeMN.gov.

Community Bike Rides

Join the Shakopee Parks and Recreation Department and the Shakopee Bicycle Advisory Committee for summer community bike rides through Shakopee. Bike helmets recommended.

Bike rides will be held: Monday, June 18, at Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N.; Saturday, July 7, at Wilkie Unit Parking Lot, 7701 County Highway 101 (mountain bike trails); and Friday, Aug. 10, at 17th Avenue Sports Complex, 2600 17th Ave. These are free bike rides; no registration required.

From the Shakopee Mdewakanton Community:

Cultural events planned

Mark your calendars! The annual SMSC Wacipi will be held Aug. 17-19, in Shakopee. Wacipi, or Pow Wow, features Native American culture through traditional music, dancing, authentic foods, and crafts. For more information, go to smsewacipi.org.

Indian Horse Relay is planned for Aug. 24-26 at Canterbury Park in Shakopee. Riders in full regalia race bareback and exchange horses on the track while riding at full-speed. To learn more about the SMSC, visit shakopedakota.org.

Construction staging for TH 13/CH 21 project continues

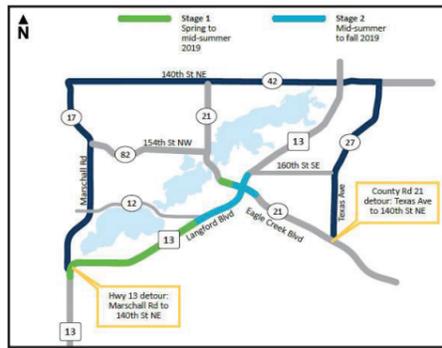
As the 2019 construction of the Moving Forward 13-21 project approaches, the City of Prior Lake, Scott County, MnDOT, and project consultants have been developing a construction staging plan in coordination with the public. This staging plan identifies steps that need to be taken during construction in order to build a project, considering key travel routes, detour routes, access in/out of an area, public safety, and specific business and community needs.

The project team understands how important both County Road 21 and Highway 13 are to getting around in Prior Lake and the region. Because of this, the team has been working hard to create a plan that resonates with the people who live and work in Prior Lake.

Draft staging plans have been reviewed at a variety of meetings over the past several months. Specific community concerns -- such as construction impacts, efficiency, safety, and communications -- have been discussed with business owners, residents, and city service representatives at six Construction Advisory Committee meetings.

Staging overview

The construction staging for the 13-21 Downtown Improvement Project will be coordinated with the construction staging for MnDOT's Highway 13 Pavement Reconstruction Project (with majority of work from south of Pleasant



Street to CR 17/Highway 282).

Draft staging plans specify two main stages during 2019 construction. Each stage will have several sub-stages. The roadway will be closed to traffic during the construction of a sub-stage. To view maps of the stages and sub-stages and detour routes, please visit www.movingforward13-21.com/construction.

Detours

The Highway 13 detour route will use County Road 17 (Marshall Road) and County Road 42. The County Road 21 detour will use County Road 27 (Texas Avenue) and County Road 42. Both detours are anticipated to add about four minutes to the total trip time.

How can you stay informed?

Continue to watch the project website, www.movingforward13-21.com/construction for more construction staging and communications details.

Park Plans

From page 8

next phase of development will focus on providing lakeside enjoyment of Spring Lake. The southern portion of the County-owned land (between Highway 12 and Spring Lake) is a nine-acre parcel and is envisioned to be a family gathering place with access to water including a canoe, kayak, or paddleboard hand-carry launch; fishing pier; and spectacular views of the lake. A play area, a pavilion, and picnic grounds will provide other activities for people of all ages. A goal of the plan is to make substantial progress towards developing this area of the park within the next ten years.

Active living opportunities.

The Parks and Trails program has worked actively with the Scott County health department through County initiatives and through the State Health Improvement Partnership. Studies show that the prevalence of inactivity is greatest in rural areas, among people of color, older adults, persons with disabilities, women, and those with lower educational attainment and lower incomes. As our work focuses on better awareness and inclusiveness for these same groups, the improvements made to support active lifestyles will support a healthier lifestyle for all. Providing a compelling choice for our busy lives within the parks should result in better regional parks and a healthier Scott County.

Open Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park for public use.

Since the last update to the Comprehensive Plan, the County has been working to acquire lands in Cedar Lake Township for a future Regional Park. The projected growth of Scott County was a driving factor in the decision to protect this land for future generations. Over half of the park has been acquired and while work remains to acquire the remaining lands, there is an opportunity to make a portion of this amenity public. The first phase of development

will be modest but will provide a scenic and natural setting for walking through restored prairie and other natural resource enhancements that have been made possible through our partnership with the Great River Greening, the Minnesota Waterfowl Association and other partners.

Improved trail connectivity.

One of the recurring themes we heard from residents over the past several years is a desire for better trail connectivity. Working with the state and with local governments, we want to help solve trail gaps and create a system of trails that allows anyone in the County an easy and accessible way to recreate or use the system for transportation to regional facilities.

Parks and trails feedback

Reaction to the draft parks and trails plan has been overwhelmingly positive, with one resident mentioning that "... I think it's a nice grand plan. I understand that it will probably take a much longer period to actually complete but it proposes a vision." The County also recognizes that not all residents have the same interests. As one resident noted, he didn't have a need for parks since he had plenty of opportunity to be active where he lives on a large lot.

The County always welcomes feedback from all perspectives to be more informed and thoughtful in our development of the system. This is easier to accomplish with many voices present.

More information about all of these strategies, and others, can be found online at the link in the introduction.

The entire plan is currently out for review at 65 different agencies, including Scott County cities, townships, neighboring communities, and other jurisdictions. Any comments about the Parks and Trails chapter can be directed to staff, the Parks Advisory Commission, or the County Board. The plan is slated for Board review in winter of 2019.

EmergenSCENE

By Captain Scott Haas
Emergency Management
and Communications Director



Why we do emergency exercises

Twenty years ago, Scott County was hit with a massive windstorm. Hundreds of homes were damaged, and dozens were destroyed. Over 8,000 downed trees lined our streets and many of our citizens' yards. Savage experienced winds estimated at 115 mph. This caused one of the largest disasters in Scott County's history, and led to months of damage assessments, debris clearance, and recovery.

Luckily, windstorms like the one that occurred in our area in 1998 are infrequent. Yet we need to be prepared for the next large event. The Emergency Management division of the Sheriff's Office works to prepare Scott County for these types of disasters.

Because these events are rare, one of the best ways to prepare for them is by conducting exercises. Every year our Emergency Management division conducts and participates in tabletop, functional, and full-scale exercises with law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical services, public works, and local community partners like our hospitals, nursing homes, Mystic Lake Casino, Valleyfair, and the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Shakopee.

Tabletop exercises are smallest in scope. The participants are presented with a crisis scenario. They must then talk through how they would resolve the problem. A **functional exercise** tests specific core capabilities in a simulated operational environment.

A **full-scale exercise** is the most complex of exercises. Locations are mocked up to simulate a disaster scenario. Responders move through the disaster and complete tasks as they would during a real crisis. Evaluators assess the players' ability to complete the tasks correctly. This is the most effective way to test the County's emergency response plans and responder capabilities. Since a disaster of this magnitude has not impacted Scott County for twenty years, the exercise presented an opportunity for staff members who were not here twenty years ago to experience disaster response responsibilities.

On May 3, Scott County Emergency Management conducted a full-scale exercise at the Scott County Fairgrounds. The exercise was based on the 1998 severe wind storm. The primary objectives of the exercise were to test our damage assessment, debris management, and pet sheltering capabilities.

In the debris management portion of the exercise, the Scott County Fair's parking lot was transformed into a remote debris collection site. Members of Public Works departments from Scott County, Prior Lake, and Elko New Market collected debris and delivered it to the remote collection site. During the process, our public works crews utilized Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) form. A documentation unit collected and tracked all of the forms documenting the FEMA reimbursable expenses.

Assisting in our debris management operation were local partners, including Dick's Sanitation, Dem-Con, and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Communities Organic Recycling Facility (ORF). By utilizing our community partners, we were not only able to make our exercise a bit more realistic, we were also able to allow our partners to get an idea of what they may encounter in a disaster so they can also prepare.

A rapid damage assessment must be quickly completed after a disaster. During this process, staff goes door-to-door in the impacted area to determine how much damage was caused to buildings in a community. Structures get classified as having minor damage, major damage, or completely destroyed. This information is needed quickly so that the County can help determine how many residents may need shelter, assistance, and basic resources. It also helps determine if the event was severe enough for the County to request funding assistance from the state or federal disaster assistance funds.

We also tested our pet sheltering plan. Many residents refused to evacuate during Hurricane Katrina because shelters at that time did not allow pets. The federal PETS act now requires a pet shelter be opened when a shelter for humans is opened. Scott County has had a written plan to comply with the federal regulations for years. This exercise allowed us to test that plan including staffing, resources, and visitor management in a pet shelter.

Exercises are the best way to test our emergency operations plans and responder capabilities before a disaster occurs. Lessons learned during the exercise give us the opportunity to fix deficiencies with improved training and more effective written plans.



A plan to set up a pet shelter when a shelter for humans is opened was tested at the Scott County Fairgrounds during the emergency exercise held May 3..

Steinhagens named Farm Family of the Year

By Colleen Carlson
U of M Extension Educator

Gary and Lori Steinhagen and their children David, Greta, and Martha are the 2018 Scott County Farm Family of the year! "We are thrilled to be selected by the University of Minnesota Extension for this honor," says Lori Steinhagen. Gary says he really enjoys being a dairy farmer, where he can be his own boss and feel a sense of accomplishment each day: "Farming has its up and downs; however, I set some goals and live a fulfilling life with our family on the farm." The Steinhagens milk 110 dairy cows and raise over 100 head of young stock along with growing corn and alfalfa for feed for the cattle on their farm just west of Belle Plaine.

Gary grew up as a "city kid" in the center of Waconia, but his life's dream was to become a farmer. When he was five years old, he recalls playing with toy cows in the sandbox. At 14 years old, he bought one calf, keeping it in an old log cabin outside city limits. He was on his way to making his dream come true. Unexpectedly, a farmer friend was having health problems and Gary stepped in to help with the chores and milking, learning as he went. Eventually, Gary rented a dairy set-up and started milking 15 cows, then grew the operation to 40, then 100 milk cows, saving his money all along. In 1997, his dream came to fruition... Gary was able to purchase their current farm.

The whole family is involved on the farm. Gary takes care of the daily milkings, herd health, along with the crop farming, maintaining machinery, and



The Steinhagen family of Belle Plaine includes (l. to r.) Gary, Lori, Martha, David, and Greta.

buildings. Lori keeps the family schedule, carpools, makes sure hot meals are on the table, and helps where she can when she is not working at her full-time job in the Finance Department at Ridgeway Hospital in Le Sueur.

The Steinhagen children are responsible for feeding the calves and bedding animals. They milk from time to time, as well as help with making hay and harvesting when they are not busy with their own enterprises. Son David, 17, raises Dorset sheep; daughter, Greta, 15, raises Boer goats; and daughter Martha, 13, raises La Mancha Dairy Goats. They also have rabbits. Gary's dad (a retired

welder) and his brothers (also city kids) like the farm life and enjoy helping with relief milking on weekends and at harvest time.

The Steinhagen family contributes in many ways within the community. Gary currently serves on the Belle Plaine Community Education Advisory Council, and has served two terms on the Belle Plaine School Board. He is a member of the Carver County DHIA, and is an active volunteer for 4-H, FFA, and FFA Alumni. Lori is a past Belle Plaine 4-H club leader, and is involved in a variety of community and church events. David is involved in sports, 4-H, and is a

FFA regional and chapter officer. Greta is involved in sports, Scott-Le Sueur County American Dairy Association, and has been a Dairy Maid. She is also currently a Dairy Ambassador, Chapter FFA officer, and a 4-H officer. Martha is involved in sports, the Scott Le Sueur County Dairy Association, and has also been a Dairy Maid. Currently, she is a Dairy Ambassador and is a 4-H officer. Gary and Lori, along with the children, have either been or currently are superintendents for the Scott County 4-H Animal Science Project Development Committee.

Steinhagens have generously opened up their farm to the public for the Scott County Extension City to Country Tour on two separate occasions and have hosted many groups from daycare centers to personal family visits. They participate in Dairy Month promotions and provide animals for the FFA petting zoo. The family likes to share their story about how they care for the animals, grow crops, and provide milk, cheese, butter, and meat for the dinner table.

"Each year, the Scott County Extension Committee supports the University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year program by selecting a family that is committed to enhancing and supporting agriculture. The Steinhagens were selected for these reasons, as well as for their level of community involvement and family commitments," explains Colleen Carlson, Scott County Extension Educator. The Steinhagens will be honored during the Scott County Fair and at Farm Fest in August.

Spiritual Center raingarden a success

Next time you are driving east on Highway 13 towards I-35 in Savage, look to your right. You can't miss the beautiful new garden at Unity of the Valley Spiritual Center. This is not just any garden, it's a raingarden planted with love by volunteers to help filter stormwater and add beauty to their landscape.

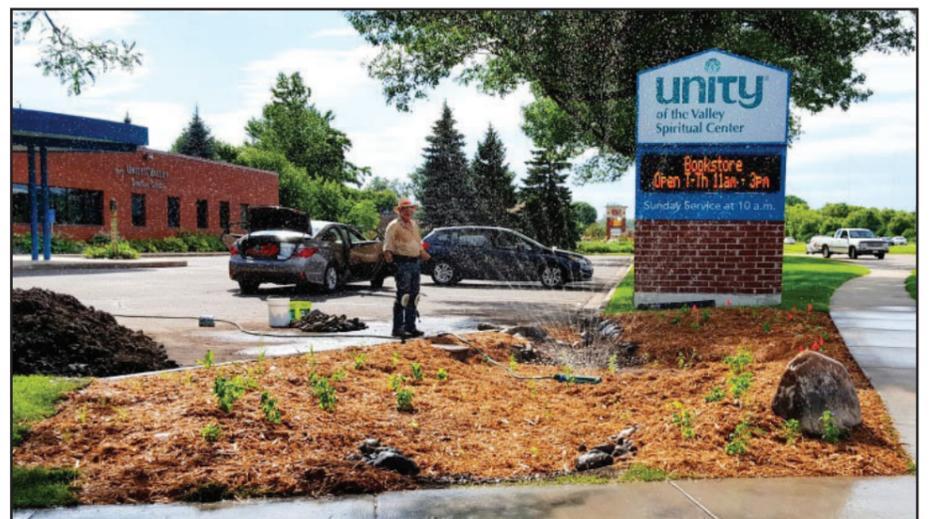
Mary Schulz, a member of Unity of the Valley, initiated the project. In 2012, Mary and her husband Michael installed a raingarden in their backyard with help from the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). They live close to Credit River, and it was important to them to filter the stormwater running through their backyard before it made its way into the river. Mary has since joined the volunteer garden committee at Unity of the Valley. The garden that was in place was in need of an update, and Mary thought back to the success of her raingarden. She knew there were benefits to the raingarden beyond its beauty.

When it rains, much of the rainwater falls on roofs, driveways, and roads, and begins flowing rapidly along the landscape. This stormwater picks up dirt

and other pollutants as it flows, eventually making its way to a storm drain -- which is then piped directly into the nearest lake or river. Raingardens are designed to catch stormwater so it can slowly infiltrate into the ground instead. This filters the pollutants out of the water, slows down the stormwater so fewer pollutants are picked up, and less storm water enters local waterbodies. Plus, the raingarden's native plants provide food and habitat for birds and bees.

Mary called the Scott SWCD to see if there was assistance available to help make their vision become reality. Working with the Scott SWCD, Unity of the Valley received a \$750 incentive to put in the raingarden as well as free technical assistance to help with its design and construction. The city of Savage offered an additional \$250 for raingardens installed in the city, bringing their total incentive amount to \$1,000. Together, with the incentives and the labor of Unity of the Valley members, the raingarden was installed at no cost to the spiritual center.

Meghan Darley, Resource Conservation Technician with the Scott SWCD,



Unity of the Valley Spiritual Center is on the south side of Highway 13, just west of I-35 in Savage.

assisted Unity of the Valley, from designing the raingarden to completing paperwork for the incentives. It was a large project for them to take on, but Mary said, "Meghan was very helpful and had my back to make sure the project was a success." Jesse Carlson, City of Savage Water Resources Engineer, also came out to check on the raingarden project before it was installed.

Mary was not alone in making the raingarden a success. She got support from members of Unity of the Valley, and many of them volunteered to help with various aspects of putting in the raingarden, including removing the sod, digging the depression, adding compost and mulch, and planting native plants.

"The raingarden turned out fantastic," Mary said. It was truly was a community effort. After the raingarden was finished, Unity of the Valley held a dedication service where members of the congregation gathered around the raingarden to pray over the garden and dedicate it to their community.

Once the raingarden was in place, they did not have to wait long to watch it

in action. "There were heavy rains last spring, so soon after it was installed we watched it fill up with rain then slowly filter into the ground." The congregation is looking forward to even more color and beauty from the raingarden as it becomes established in its second year.

Planting a raingarden was a great addition to the Spiritual Center's landscape because its benefits keep with the beliefs and principles of Unity of the Valley. "The Unity movement is guided by a vision of sacredness and the interconnectedness of all life. It is a journey of spiritual relationships with Earth and its creatures."

If you are thinking about doing your part for water quality by planting a raingarden, the Scott SWCD can help. They will help you design the raingarden, talk to you about which native plants to choose, and get you signed up for an incentive program. The process is easy -- just call the Scott SWCD office at (952) 492-5425 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to get started.



Members of Unity of the Valley Spiritual Center worked together to install a new raingarden.